





## Former mandarin calls for Whitehall confidant

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Civil servants should be able to appeal to an independent inspector-general if ministers attempt to mislead Parliament, Sir Douglas Warr, former permanent secretary at the Treasury, says in an article published today.

Among other far-reaching proposals, he said that a freedom of information act "would go far towards making devious behaviour (by ministers) difficult to conceal, and that the head of the Civil Service should have the right to express misgivings to Parliament about senior Whitehall appointments made by ministers."

Writing in the Political Quarterly, Sir Douglas suggests that a royal commission should look into the question of civil servants' loyalty.

He also suggests that the head of the Civil Service should have the right to express misgivings to Parliament about senior Whitehall appointments made by ministers.

His intervention in a controversy which the Government is trying to play down is certain to be deeply resented by 10 Downing Street as well as Sir Robert Armstrong, with whom Sir Douglas was joint head of the Home Civil Service between 1981 and 1983.

Sir Douglas makes it clear he shares the misgivings of a growing number of officials about the code of conduct for civil servants issued in February by Sir Robert, who is now both Cabinet secretary and sole head of the Home Civil Service.

In the code, Sir Robert said that civil servants owe their absolute loyalty to the government of the day and should never appeal above the heads



Sir Douglas Warr—question of loyalty

of ministers to an independent authority. Sir Douglas also criticises Mr. Thatcher for failing to recognise that loyalty was a two way process and placed obligations on ministers as well as civil servants.

Through a freedom of information act, would make it more difficult for ministers to mislead Parliament, they could abuse it by claiming wrongly, that information and documents could not be released on the grounds of national security, Sir Douglas says.

In this situation, a civil servant should be able to appeal in the last resort to an inspector-general, a procedure that already exists in the United States.

Under Sir Douglas's proposal, the inspector-general—a kind of ombudsman—could require the minister to correct his statement to Parliament or make a report to the appropriate Commons select committee.

Any civil servant who revealed a malpractice in this way would be protected from disciplinary measures and damage to his career.

Sir Douglas says that direct ministerial involvement in the appointment of senior civil servants threatened to undermine the tradition that officials should be appointed on merit.

He made an unmistakable reference to the appointment of Mr Peter Levene, the former defence contractor and personal adviser to Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, to head the Government's arms procurement agency.

Sir Douglas wrote: "What seems to have been happening in recent years is that outside appointments have been made on the initiative, and sometimes virtually by the minister himself, with little attention to the strict proprieties, other than in a formal sense."

Labour council draws back from confrontation and votes to obey court order for cuts

## Edinburgh surrenders on rates

By Jean Stead, Scottish Correspondent

Edinburgh's Labour council voted at the weekend to obey a court order and reduce the district rate by 1.8p in the pound—thereby withdrawing from confrontation with the Government.

The Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, last month ordered revision of the housing estimates to make the cuts.

When the council refused, the court action followed.

Edinburgh was one of the last local authorities to resist government demands for reduction in the rates. The city's Labour leader, Mr Alex Wood, repeatedly said he would defy the court order

and risk a prison sentence rather than give in.

At the last moment, with the council members hurriedly summoned from holiday to attend yesterday's meeting, the Labour leaders could not muster enough support for a vote to defy the court order. It was clear that some Labour councillors were going to draw back from illegality and the possible threat of personal surcharge.

The council chamber was packed with jeering Labour supporters and tenants' groups, and the Lord Provost at one point threatened to clear the room because of fear that the public gallery might collapse under stamping feet.

The Labour group has avoided cutting its housing repair budget by finding the extra £5,638,000 over the Secretary of State's £2,824,000 guidelines, from the capital account.

The Tory leader, Mr Paul Martin, said: "The brave words of a fight to the finish by Labour have come to grief. The Labour leader has turned into a timorous little mouse and has realised that, ultimately, even he is subject to the law."

Labour said they would sacrifice themselves on this principle of rates and they have not done so. We are happy to see them raising the white flag."

The Labour group has avoided cutting its housing repair budget by finding the extra £5,638,000 over the Secretary of State's £2,824,000 guidelines, from the capital account.

This includes the handing of council mortgages on individual properties to private brokers, a move that brought accusations of asset-stripping from the Tory councillors.

The Labour motion to comply with the court order and to adjust the budget to meet housing repairs from a capital account, was passed by 36 votes to 22 with the Tories voting against. Mr Wood warned that even harder battles with the Government lay ahead.

An order passed in the House of Commons last week paved the way for the Secretary of State to order an immediate cut of £16 million in

the general rate. The council is now preparing to challenge that.

Mr Wood, to cheers from supporters in the public gallery, said: "The choice we were offered was harsh. It breaks my political heart to make it but it was either this or chaos."

Labour's campaign to improve services and create jobs in the city when elected last year was not a Stalinist or Goebbels type of campaign.

"We have changed the perceptions of the people of this city. If this achievement was thrown away it would be easy for it to be decimated by its enemies. If we fail in housing,



Alex Wood: No longer risking prison

we shall betray the working class people of this city," he said.

## Labour looks for election drive at conference

By James Naughtie, Chief Political Correspondent

Delegates to this year's Labour conference will see a film on campaigning techniques as a prelude to the party's first full-scale debate on the run-up to the next general election.

A giant screen at the International Conference Centre in Birmingham will be used for the film, which will give the delegates the unlikely air of an American party convention. The debate which follows will not arise on a specific resolution, but is intended by the leadership to allow a lengthy discussion of the party's campaigning style and publicity machine.

The intention is to emphasise the importance of winning the next election, although the list of resolutions submitted for discussion and publication reveals that internal divisions will have their place on the agenda.

Twelve of the 14 resolutions submitted on the black sections issue oppose the line taken by Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader, and call for separate sections to be established. Mr Kinnock believes there will be little difficulty in winning the support of the conference for a national black rights group — the formula likely to be adopted by the NEC — to judge by the pressure from elements of the constituency section is expected in Birmingham.

There will also be pressure from constituents for an amnesty for all miners convicted and dismissed during the pit strike — a debate at the NEC — but the future of the National Union of Mineworkers' resolution stops short of such a recommendation.

It argues for reinstatement of all those sacked, a review of the cases of all those convicted, and reimbursement of all legal costs by a future Labour government.

Despite the likelihood of division about black sections and the aftermath of the miners' strike, the resolutions show little interest in issues which troubled Mr Kinnock last year — specifically on the position of supporters of the Militant Tendency in the party. There is evident pleasure in the leadership at the concentration of resolutions on such issues as social services and the health service.

The welfare state is the subject of 47 resolutions — the largest number submitted on any policy area — and nearly all condemn the government's "savage attack" on the health service, the lower paid, and the social security system.

A number of resolutions call for a reaffirmation of the party's commitment to public ownership — the subject of a strong campaign by leaving MPs.

Mr Tony Benn and Mr Eric Heffer, two members of the Campaign Group, will present a paper to the NEC on Wednesday calling for a new party programme to be drawn up next year, clarifying policy in key areas. One of the demands is a firm commitment to extend public ownership and the renationalisation of companies privatised under Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Kinnock yesterday flew with the Royal Air Force to a low-level food drop in Ethiopia's northern Shoa region. The Labour leader was starting a trip which will take him to Tanzania and Kenya.



A brother and sister play in St Thomas's hospital, south London yesterday, after being abandoned there by their mother, who is being sought by police. A note said she could not cope with Sharon, aged two (left) and Mark, aged one

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Benn warns on police tactic book

MR TONY Benn yesterday described a secret manual on police tactics for dispersing crowds as a clear incitement to police officers to break the law.

In the Commons today, Mr Benn will question the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, over the manual. Public Order Tactical Options.

The document came to light during the Orgreave riot trial at Sheffield which ended last week with the acquittal of all 14 defendants.

The manual, drawn up by the Association of Chief Police Officers, suggests the dispersal of crowds by charges of 20 officers bearing shields and truncheons and the use of using horses to create fear.

### Vivisectionists target of violence

AN ANIMAL rights group noted at its annual meeting yesterday that it had received 100 letters from campaigners who injured or killed vivisectionists. The 600 members of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection who were present approved the letter by a margin of only four votes.

### Man held after shots fired

A MAN was arrested by armed policemen early yesterday after an armed gunman shot at police and escaped in a panda car in the Devon village of Fremington at about 4 am.

A man had fired a shotgun at his girlfriend's car then forced policemen to drive for cover.

### Short moves into 6th place with win

NIGEL SHORT won again at Biel, Switzerland, last night as the 20-year-old British chess champion continued his late try for a world candidate's place. He beat Torre of the Philippines in 41 moves with two extra pawns.

Short has nine points out of 15 with two rounds left. He is in the sixth place, 15 points behind the leaders. The leaders are Seirawan (US) and Vaganian (USSR) 104 out of 15, Sokolov (USSR) and Torre 10 out of 15, van der Wiel (Holland) 94 out of 14.

### British Rail to fit emergency levers

BRITISH Rail has decided to fit emergency levers to allow passengers to open automatic sliding doors on trains from the inside after a campaign by the official rail users' watchdog group, the Central Transport Consultative Committee, which feared passengers might be trapped in an accident.

### Commentator

DORIAN WILLIAMS, the former BBC television show-jumping commentator died yesterday aged 71. Page 22.

## SAS and US agents swap their secrets

By Gareth Parry

AMERICAN secret service agents including members of the SAS, including politicians and the legal paramilitary group the Ulster Defence Association, is to be set up.

Organisers of the United Ulster Loyalist Front hope to recruit councillors, members of the Northern Ireland Assembly, MPs and Orange leaders. Then they will draw up a plan of action against the Ulster Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, the province's Chief Constable, Sir John Hermon, and their Dublin-based policies.

It seems that the originators of the front believe that it needs a combination of public figures and paramilitary muscle to be taken seriously. UDA participation has given it momentum and marks it out from other shadowy and sometimes almost farcical groups set up by Protestants, such as the Democratic Unionist-sponsored "third force".

The chairman of the front, Mr Alan Wright, a Portadown Orangeman whose policeman father was killed by the IRA,

said that the presence of the UDA was inevitable but denied that it would become a paramilitary force. "Times are so grim that a united Loyalist body must come together to remind the government that its double-talk is wrong."

It remains to be seen whether the front can attract enough support from Unionist groupings. Mr Wright was responsible earlier this month for organising a massive demonstration of Loyalist strength in Portadown to protest at the planned re-opening of a march along the notorious "Tunnel" area.

The demonstration was credited with forcing the Government and the police to allow the parade. However, the marches planned for the same route a week later were diverted, causing 48 bombs of fighting between Loyalist mobs and the security forces.

Mr Wright promised at the time to get thousands of Loyalists on to the streets but when it came to the crunch he could not deliver.

Although the Americans at the SAS headquarters have been involved in classroom studies of the regiment's techniques — they have been particularly interested in SAS's "stealth and attack" philosophy, which was dramatically demonstrated at the end of the Iranian embassy siege — they have also been engaged in some "field-work".

This has involved the adoption of their own pub, in a surprisingly down-market area of London where the Americans have held a number of rumbustious parties.

The Americans are full-on in their admiration for the SAS, both as men and as soldiers, and are given officer status in the regimental mess.

The Secret Service men have made regular visits to British locations which might feature in future visits to Britain by American personalities. That sort of knowledge was useful recently during Vice-President George Bush's visit to Britain.

The SAS officers have made similar excursions to Washington, where they have been based at the Treasury Department.

Although the Treasury Department confirmed that the British officers do take part in reciprocal visits, the Ministry of Defence said: "As a matter of policy we do not discuss any action of the SAS."

## Loyalists to set up anti-Hurd coalition

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

A new umbrella group for Loyalists, including politicians and the legal paramilitary group the Ulster Defence Association, is to be set up.

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## Nuclear dumping puts Irish Sea 'at risk'

By Paul Brown

Pumping Plutonium 241 from the Sellafield nuclear processing plant into the Irish Sea has created a nuclear time bomb, according to Mr Peter Wilkinson, international director of Greenpeace.

Until now the Government appears to have turned a blind eye to the dumping of material but a Department of Environment spokesman said yesterday that action would be taken within six months to regulate the dumping.

Compared with other substances dumped from Sellafield over the years, Plutonium 241 appears less hazardous but it breaks down into a much more dangerous substance.

By the end of 1982 more than half a million curies of plutonium 241 had been dumped in the Irish Sea and already 5,560 curies of the much more dangerous Americium 241 had been produced as a result.

Government claims that British is to cut discharges from Sellafield to 20 curies of Alpha emitters by 1991 look doubtful if the dumping of Americium 241 is taken into account.

Mr Wilkinson says that the Government's claims to cut the discharges, without including the effects of Plutonium 241, amount to a confidence trick on the other European nations to make them believe that dumping is less than it really is.

Plutonium 241 arises in fuel rods from Magnox stations reprocessed at Sellafield for many years to gain plutonium and uranium, called 239 and 240, are closely controlled because they are alpha emitters and caused cancer.

Plutonium 241 in the fuel rods is more than 100 times more dangerous than the amount of the other two plutoniums combined, but because 241 emits only "soft" Beta rays it is ignored in Government authorities for

pipelines discharges and dumped unrestricted in the sea.

However, Plutonium 241 begins to break down into the highly toxic Alpha emitter, Americium 241 after 14 years. That substance is said to be more than twice as dangerous as the Plutoniums 239 and 240 which are so closely controlled.

British Nuclear Fuels Ltd has been cutting discharges of all plutonium into the Irish Sea in the last few years and by 1983 had cut the discharges of 241 to 8,944 curies.

The 1983 discharge would have created about 28 curies of the Alpha producing Americium in 100 years. According to Greenpeace this makes nonsense of Government claims that Alpha discharges will be down to 20 curies a year by 1991.

BNFL spokesman said that the Plutonium 241 discharges have been noted in recent annual reports and calculations done on pollution levels. This had been taken into account when considering the overall level of pollution created by the plant and it fell well within the international safety limits.

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## Man who masterminded war hoax

### OBITUARY

THE HON Ewen Montagu, who led the team which created the second world war "man who never was" intelligence hoax, died on Friday, aged 84.

An eminent lawyer, Mr Montagu masterminded the floating ashore late in April, 1943, on the Spanish coast near Huelva of what seemed to be a dead staff officer's body.

The body carried papers indicating that Sardinia and Greece were the targets for the next main Allied effort in the Mediterranean — so providing important cover for the real invasion, in Sicily.

Montagu wrote about the operation in the book, *The Man Who Never Was*, which sold more than two million copies and became a successful film.

After the war, he served as a judge. He was given an OBE in 1944 and became a CBE in 1950.

Much speculation centred on the identity of the Man Who Never Was. Only Winston Churchill, Duff Cooper, and Montagu himself, knew his real name.

Nearly three million copies of the book have been sold in 13 languages all over the world, and the film won a

British Film Academy award in 1956.

Mr Montagu was one of this the Royal Navy led to his appointment as the Judge Advocate of the Fleet in 1945, and he was to sit as a Judge in the 20-year-old British chess champion continued his late try for a world candidate's place. He beat Torre of the Philippines in 41 moves with two extra pawns.

Short has nine points out of 15 with two rounds left. He is in the sixth place, 15 points behind the leaders. The leaders are Seirawan (US) and Vaganian (USSR) 104 out of 15, Sokolov (USSR) and Torre 10 out of 15, van der Wiel (Holland) 94 out of 14.

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## HOME NEWS

Alan Dunn meets the entertainer who is exhorting the public to join the battle to preserve the countryside.

### Harding, rambler with a mission

WHEN it comes to safeguarding the environment, Alan Dunn, the entertainer, believes that it is time the great British public stood up to be counted—preferably as members of the Ramblers' Association.

Although they may not be responding in their millions as yet, the publicity surrounding his election this year as the association's president has stimulated enough interest to send up the membership by an anticipated 14 per cent to 50,000 by September.

Politicians, he believes, will take a wholesome interest in protecting the environment only when votes are at stake. "So the more people who join conservation bodies, including the RA, the greater will be their influence and the more power they will be able to wield," he says.

The way to encourage people to join and he counted on to make them aware of the many threats facing the countryside.

The issues are legion, from protecting the rights of ramblers to walk along footpaths to the spreading evils of factories. His special interests are in the national parks, which cover most of the uplands of England and Wales, the nation's favourite tramping grounds.

"The original idea behind the parks has never come to fruition," he says. Only two of the 10 parks have independent planning powers, the rest are shared among the various councils controlling the parks, each jealous of the others' powers.

The result is that national parks have strong planning powers over such things as influencing the shapes of windows in park buildings, but over the major threats of quarrying, military use and forestry they are useless.

When the parks were formed—Scotland still has none—the Siltin Test, named after Lord Siltin, was put forward as a standard for permitting quarrying for minerals in the parks. There had first to be an overriding national need and then no alternative source of supply.

The test has mostly been ignored, especially by local councils who say that the quarries are needed for employment," says Mr Harding. Quarries are just used to provide aggregate for motorways. In Ribblesdale, near his favourite rambling area of the Yorkshire Dales, there were five working quarries within six miles.

His argument turning the parks into museums or Disneyland. "But there is a crying need for a well thought out and committed plan to run parks as an amenity for the whole nation."

"People who live there have to be found alternative employment, though quarrying doesn't employ all that many. Light industrial units could be built in the disused quarries and greater use made of disused farm buildings, such as barns, to increase income from visitors looking for somewhere to stay."

"Until the demand from roadmakers grew quarrying in the parks used to be on a smaller, more human scale. Now they are not only taking valuable time stone but destroying whole landscapes."

"The parks and the Countryside Commission do a fine job producing educational and interesting literature, but we need to hammer home that not everything is lovely, and if we don't do something quickly it will be too late."

"The Countryside Commission recently produced a report on the future of the uplands. It was rejected by the Government, which shows how seriously they take the commission, the body they set up to monitor the parks and countryside."

A lifelong rambler, Mr Harding is preparing a book on walking in the Yorkshire Dales which he and his wife, Pat, enjoy regularly. They are just two of the four million people who take walks of three miles or more each week in Britain.



Mr Alan Dunn, president of the Ramblers Association, enjoying a walk through the countryside. "Politicians will only take interest in the environment when votes are at stake." Picture by Don McPhee

### Protestants demand apology for bigot gibe

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Protestant leaders in Northern Ireland demanded last night that Cardinal Tomás O Fiaich apologise for his comments about Protestant bigotry.

The Roman Catholic primate of all Ireland said on Friday that 80 per cent of religious bigotry in Ulster came from the Protestant side. He antagonised Protestants and Unionists by coming out with the assertion that the IRA did not carry out sectarian murders and that most people that voted for Sinn Féin did not vote for violence.

Speaking at Armagh yesterday the Methodist president, the Reverend Hamilton Skelton, accused Cardinal O Fiaich of "falsely maligning the Protestants and of misrepresenting Roman Catholics. He was guilty of provocation through mistaken judgment and ought to apologise."

Church of Ireland bishops in Northern Ireland joined the general Protestant condemnation with a joint statement issued yesterday that Cardinal O Fiaich had shown himself to be insensitive as well as inaccurate.

The bishops said the comments, reported in the Roman Catholic newspaper, the *Irish Times*, could only divide people further.

of the security forces as having no religious significance failed to appreciate fully the sensitivity of the Protestant community. It had suffered the murder of so many of its people while serving all sections of the community through the security forces, the bishops said.

While Cardinal O Fiaich's opinion on a united Ireland and the alienation of the Roman Catholic community are well known, what has surprised many is his reported view that the IRA does not engage in pure sectarian murder.

He told the *Universalist* that the IRA, which he described as cruel and ruthless, did not kill Protestants as Protestants but Protestants who happened to be members of the security forces.

Several Unionist politicians said yesterday that Ireland's leading Roman Catholic was ignoring many atrocities committed in the past by the IRA, and two killings in particular this year.

In one, a Protestant student who had once considered joining the RUC but had never had an interview, was shot dead in Belfast. In the other, a 30-year-old widower who had been a policeman 23 years ago was shot dead in an ambush at his farm, leaving his 12-year-old son an orphan.

### 'Second class' Welsh

By Tony Heath

Welsh-speaking people had become second-class citizens, a Plaid Cymru MP said at the weekend after an industrial tribunal ruling that two women had suffered racial discrimination because they could not speak Welsh.

Mr Dafydd Wigley, who represents Caernarfon, said he was astonished at the judgment, which he described as a vicious attack on the rights of Welsh speakers.

Mrs Phyllis Jones, aged 52, and Miss Justine Doyle, 21, had been turned down for a total of nine jobs with Gwynedd County Council's social services department after having completed a 12-month Manpower Services Commission placement at a council-run home. Neither speaks Welsh.

They were represented at the Colwyn Bay hearing last week by Mr Thomas Nicholls, legal adviser to the Commission for Racial Equality.

Mr Wigley, who said he intended to raise the matter in the House of Commons, declared, "this case shows not only the prejudice of the Race Relations Board in allowing their resources to be used against the Welsh language, but also the inadequacy of acts of Parliament to defend Welsh-speaking people."

The ruling could have significant effects outside Wales, Mr Derek Gregory, Wales divisional officer of the National Union of Public Employees, to which Mrs Jones belongs, said yesterday.

"Looking at the possible situation outside Wales, circumstances could arise in an English authority when members of ethnic minorities come under council care and the question of language arose. Would it be a requirement of employment in those circumstances for an application to speak, say, Urdu or Hindi?" Mr Gregory asked.

The Welsh Language Society said it might refer the judgment to the European Court of Human Rights.

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# Which Loan?

Comparative costs of a £2,000 unsecured direct personal loan spread over 2 years (24 monthly payments)

	Monthly Repayment	APR	Total Repayment	Difference
	£	%	£	£
Midland Bank	103.34	23.8	2480.00	—
Mercantile Credit	109.87	32.0	2636.00	+156
HFC Trust	110.00	32.1	2640.00	+160
Lombard North Central	110.26	32.5	2646.00	+166
Boston Trust	111.67	34.2	2680.00	+200

## And the moral is:

Before you arrange a loan, check out how it compares with Midland Personal Loans. As you can see, some direct loans could cost you a lot more.

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From the Listening Bank

GU/22-7

### Search hitch for police

By Michael Morris

Manchester housing department staff have been ordered not to help police gain access to council houses and flats on surveillance duties until guidelines have been formulated.

The Labour-controlled council and department officials are holding talks with the police over guidelines.

Police have declined to comment on reports that some housing staff were turning down requests for help because of a department memorandum ordering them not to comply until the guidelines are fixed.

The housing director, Mr Robert Young, said that there had been complaints about some police use of council property, from housing staff, tenants, and councillors.

access to property and housing lists checked with senior police officers. At present, he said, anyone claiming to be a police officer could approach his staff.

He is also concerned about the possibility of different police sections, dressed in plain clothes, facing each other in uncoordinated operations around council dwellings.

Mr Young stressed that the council would be inclined to support police use of council property where serious crime was reported, especially drug dealing and terrorist activity.

The leader of the council's Conservative group, Mr Harold Tucker, said he viewed with disquiet a further attempt to approach a relationship with the police in a "peremptory and arbitrary fashion."



Dafydd Wigley: attacked jobs ruling



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Israel hopes to continue its new contacts with Moscow

## Peres sends positive signals to Soviet leader

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

The Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, has reportedly sent a message to the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, expressing the hope that the two countries can solve the problems preventing them from reestablishing diplomatic relations after a break of 18 years.

According to Israeli radi, Mr Peres conveyed the message verbally through Mr Edgar Bronfman, President of the World Jewish Congress, who is to visit Moscow shortly. The message reportedly stresses that Israel is not hostile towards the Soviet Union, and expresses the hope that a

time diplomatic contacts with the Soviet Union about a possible improvement of relations, but are not expecting a breakthrough.

Israeli political sources said that they believed that the report about the Paris meeting had been deliberately leaked in order to sabotage the rapprochement.

But according to another hypothesis, the news was leaked in order to signal to the US that Israel would seek to involve the Soviet Union in the Middle East peace process if the US persisted in its apparent intention of bringing in the PLO.

Mr Peres yesterday received an American "clarification" about US plans to meet the Jordanian-Palestinian delegations as a prelude to possible talks with Israel. The Prime Minister said last week that the list of names proposed by the PLO for the meeting with the Americans was "unacceptable".

According to yesterday's message from the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, the US is still checking Palestinian names and will meet the joint delegations only if the talks will lead to direct negotiations with Israel. The US will continue its policy of not dealing with the PLO unless it stops fighting and recognises the Jewish state.

strong leader like Mr Gorbachev will be able to settle the bilateral issue between the two countries.

The message follows the embarrassment in Jerusalem caused by last Friday's leak about a secret meeting between the Israeli and Soviet ambassadors to France. Israel confirmed that the meeting had taken place, but refused to give details. The news agency denied what it called a "fabrication".

According to Israeli Radio, the two envoys discussed the possibility of easing restrictions on Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, stopping anti-Soviet propaganda, Israeli agreement with Syria over the future of the occupied Golan Heights, and reestablishing diplomatic relations between Moscow and Jerusalem severed since the Soviet Union after the 1967 war.

Officials here said yesterday that they are hoping to con-

## Quiet Rabbi with a noisome message

Rabbi Kahane, leader of the extremist Kach movement, is gaining ground in Israeli politics, especially among young people, reports Ian Black

FOR A MAN who arouses such fear and loathing, Rabbi Meir Kahane, the leader of Israel's Kach movement, can be surprisingly soft-spoken when he explains his extreme views about why the Jewish State must get rid of its Arabs.

"If they're not out, then we're going to be out," Rabbi Kahane says quietly. "I have no intention of losing my state to bullets or bombs. The problem is that Zionism is in total contradiction with Western democracy, as we know it and in Judaism, no non-Jew has a right to be a citizen of a Jewish state."

"Now if you're not happy with that, fine. I have no quarrel with people who are unhappy with that, but they should know that it's not Kahane. It is Judaism."

A year after the Israeli general elections brought him in from the political wilderness to take up his seat in the Knesset, the Rabbi, born in Brooklyn, can be well satisfied with his progress: he may still be a pariah, but he leads the fastest growing political movement in the country.

The wall of Kach's Jerusalem headquarters is covered with organisational charts and lists of the speaking engagements that take Rabbi Kahane several times a night to the working-class development towns and slum neighbourhoods where his support is strongest.

In an atmosphere of rising Arab-Jewish violence, disrespect for the rule of law, deepening economic crisis, and social tensions, the racist and anti-democratic theories he espouses are becoming more and more popular.

That the Rabbi himself says he is successful is hardly surprising. "The polls show six, or seven, or eight seats. I don't believe in those polls. I believe that for each person who is ready to admit openly that he will vote Kach in the next election there is yet another one who will vote Kach and hasn't had the courage to admit it yet."

Under Israel's system of proportional representation, a party with that number of seats could easily be the third largest in the Knesset.

Don't listen to all these stories about how I'm ostracised in the Knesset," Rabbi Kahane says with the snarl that passes for his smile. "It isn't true. Many members speak to me. If I have 10



Rabbi Kahane: 'I respect the Arabs because I know you cannot buy them.'

coming more and more popular.

Rabbi Kahane is gaining ground and can be ignored. According to one recent survey, more than 40 per cent of young Israelis — the generation that has grown up since the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, through the bitter political polarisation of the years of Likud rule — now "agree" or "agree completely" with him. The figure is even higher in the case of religious youngsters.

Youth is attracted, first of all, by his call for the forcible expulsion of Israel's Arab minority and the Palestinians in the occupied territories. Arab men, his propaganda goes, prey on innocent Jewish women, ply

seats in the next Parliament and I have three horns, they'll speak to me. That's how it is."

Arabs, he screams, take the jobs that should go to demobilised Jewish soldiers. Arabs — all Arabs — are potential terrorists. Two hours after every bomb explosion his supporters are out on the streets with leaflets.

"I respect the Arabs," he begins, a well-practised litany, "because I know that you cannot buy them. There is a British imperialist kind of attitude here, a Rudyard Kipling kind of thing whereby they say 'what do the Arabs want? We came and found a desert and turned it into a garden.' That's what all the united Jewish appeal speakers tell their tourists.

"Well, what does the Arab say to that? It was our

desert and now it's your garden.' These imbeciles here boast about how we took an Arab village that had no water and now they have indoor toilets — if you think you can buy a person's national pride with an indoor toilet, you are in desperately bad shape."

"Or when they boast about how they're studying Hebrew — well, I put it to you that the most dangerous Arab in Israel is precisely the student of Hebrew, because the revolution doesn't come from the dumb and the dumb. It comes from the intellectual, and the intellectual Arab class citizen under the auspices of Zionism as it is known now. If anything, most Arabs will tell you, if they're honest, at least Kahane is honest."

Most Arabs, in fact, and many Israeli Jews as well, especially those old enough to remember a little of their own history under fascism, compare him with Hitler.

He replies that the accusation is irrelevant. "The Arabs believe that we stole this country. They massacred Jews in the 1920s and 1930s before there was a Kahane before there was a state. They'll do it again tomorrow. So I'm a little impressed by foolish Jews who say that I cause the problems."

"One of the problems of the secular leftist Jew heart is that deep in his heart he really doesn't believe that he has a right to be here. That's the real problem."

"Since God plays no great part in their lives and they don't remember the persecutions they've suffered, the Arabs get up and say, what right did you have to come here anyway. So deep in their hearts there is this gnawing guilt, this terrible, terrible thing. It leads to self-hate."

Time and circumstances are on his side. "This economic crisis will help me. I say this with a heavy heart. The worse things get for the Jewish people, the better chances are for good times for the Jewish people, but good times can only come if the Jewish people do that which God wants."

## Attack on oil platform may not hit production

From David Hearst in Baghdad

Independent Gulf sources yesterday confirmed Iraq's claim to have set fire to an Iranian oil production platform, 75 miles south of the oil terminal at Kharg Island.

Iraq's official news agency said that four wells and a pumping station had been set alight in the attack late on Friday night. The Iraqis are known to have Russian-built OSA-1 gunboats equipped with Stx missiles with a range of

40 miles. Iraq said yesterday that it would tighten the noose around Iran's economy until Iran "gave in" and came to the negotiating table.

There were doubts about whether the field was producing oil at the time, and the attack is not thought likely to affect significantly Iran's present output of 1.2 million barrels a day.

In a speech marking the 17th anniversary of the Iraqi revolution, President Saddam

Russeid said that Iraq hoped to increase its oil output by 800,000 barrels a day when a new pipeline through Saudi Arabia came on stream at the end of the year. At present, the only pipeline left is across Turkey, through which Iraq exports 1.5 million barrels a day.

Unofficial reports reaching Baghdad said that the Iraqis lost more than 500 men in last week's heavy fighting in the north. According to the report, Iran launched a surprise attack in the mountains in the north

by infiltrating two brigades behind Iraqi lines.

The offensive soon ran into difficulties, with Iraq bringing in heavy reinforcements. Bitter hand-to-hand fighting apparently followed, with the loss of only two Iraqi villages.

According to the report, more than 3,000 soldiers were killed, 2,200 of them Iranian. Iraq yesterday admitted the loss of one of its jets, and said it held Iran responsible for the safety of the pilot.

Western sources in Baghdad

say that, despite the fighting in the north, neither side is willing to throw its full military weight behind an offensive in any one area. The so-called war of the cities, with Iraq launching high-altitude bombing raids on Iranian cities and Iran replying by firing Scud missiles at Baghdad, appears to have ended.

The last missile landed on Baghdad on June 15. Western military analysts say that the war has returned to the stalemate of last March.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Sudanese plan visit to Cairo

SUDAN'S leader, General Abdul-Rahman Swaredhab, said yesterday that he planned to visit Egypt shortly for talks with President Mubarak on bilateral and African issues.

General Swaredhab, who led a military coup in April, which overthrew the Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, and US ally, Jaafar Numeiri, gave no date. Sudanese-Egyptian relations have been clouded since the coup because of Khartoum's rapprochement with Cairo's arch-foe, Libya, and Egypt's decision to grant Mr Numeiri asylum in Cairo.

Mr Mubarak visited Sudan on June 17 for the first time since the coup. He met General Swaredhab again last week in Addis Ababa during the OAU summit. — Reuters.

### Path blocked

A GROUP OF US peace marchers, attempting to walk from California to Moscow, has been forced to halt at the East German border because East European states have refused them entry visas.

The group, eight Americans and a Dutch woman, has been stuck in a West German frontier village for more than a month. — Reuters.

### Air peace

SPANISH air traffic was back to normal yesterday after controllers decided to call off their threatened two-day strike on Saturday. Jane Walker writes from Madrid. They called for work stoppages every weekend until September to highlight their dispute with the civil aviation authorities about pay and conditions of work.

### Skin scales

A CHINESE boy, aged three, has skin covered with hard black scales which no doctor can remove. The Farmers' Daily said in Peking that the boy tries to get rid of the scales by scratching himself. He was taken to a hospital where he was given a special diet. The scales came off but they grew back again within two days. — Reuters.

### Witch hunt

TWO Zimbabweans, suspected of sorcery, have died in a village witch hunt. A male witchdoctor and two women assistants were hired to identify the witches. Witchdoctors are traditional healers while witches cast deadly spells, some villagers believe. — AP.

### Soviet blast

THE Soviet Union detonated a powerful underground nuclear blast registering 6.8 on the Richter scale at its main military test site in eastern Kazakhstan on Saturday. Swedish scientists reported. — Reuters.

### Not welcome

THE five-day visit by a US nuclear submarine, the USS Scorpion, to Zeebrugge has been cancelled after a peace campaign by several Belgian organisations which was supported by opposition parties. — AP.

### Guilty verdict

A MIAMI court has found the former chief minister of the Turks and Caicos Islands, Norman Saunders, and one of his cabinet members guilty on drug conspiracy charges. They face up to 30 years in prison. — Reuters.

### Lost loves

A SOUTH-EAST Asian drug Nam, that can enable a man to have nine consecutive orgasms if inhaled before sex, eventually causes impotence. An Argentine doctor warned yesterday in Rio de Janeiro. — Reuters.

### Shop deaths

A GAS explosion yesterday wrecked a crowded supermarket in Andorra Pas de la Casa, killing nine people and wounding 16. The dead included Spaniards and three French nationals. — Reuters.

### Fighter deal

GREECE signed a contract at the weekend to buy 40 French Mirage-2000 fighter planes to modernise its air force. The contract is expected to cost about \$2 billion. — Reuters.

### Iran hopefuls

THIRTY Iranians have registered as candidates for president. Yesterday was the registration deadline for the August 16 election. — AP.

### Rebels killed

THE Afghan Government said yesterday that 50 rebels were killed and 20 wounded in a recent clash in the eastern province of Herat. — AP.

## Ten die in Gujarat as truce fails

New Delhi: Ten people were killed and 20 injured yesterday as street battles rocked Ahmedabad, biggest city in India's western Gujarat state, as the Prime Minister's office reported. Police opened fire to disperse angry crowds fighting in the curfew-bound city centre despite a three-day-old truce between authorities and leaders of the protest against the reservation of jobs and college places for underprivileged castes.

PTI said that the death toll in five successive days of riots had reached 32, while in Gujarat's four million of sectarian unrest at least 228 people had died.

The agreement, signed on Friday, included cancellation of the protest campaign in return for the dropping of an 18 per cent increase in the minority quotas and the release of jailed protesters.

The Times of India newspaper said yesterday that the end of the campaign had had little effect on the clashes between Hindus and Muslims and warned of more trouble ahead.

Apparently, the calling off of the campaign had little effect on elements bent on perpetuating communal trouble in the state," he said.

Three people were stabbed to death in clashes which broke out in Ahmedabad, a taxi centre, and a fourth died when police opened fire to break up a crowd.

The Times of India said that rebel protest leaders who had not agreed to the truce were calling a one-day general strike today in Ahmedabad.

The protest leader, Mr Shankarbhaj Patel, said on Friday that as part of the peace agreement the Gujarat government would release all jailed protesters and order an investigation into the violence.

Protest leaders who signed the truce have also appealed to 7.2 million striking students in Gujarat to return to their classes. — Reuters.

## Deng's pledge

Peking: The Chinese leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, yesterday said he knew many people doubted the feasibility of his plan to allow Hong Kong to remain a capitalist outpost within socialist China, but said: "I say it will work."

Mr Deng was speaking to a news delegation at his seaside villa in Beidaihe, east of Peking. — Reuters.

## Black box analysis completed

BOMBAY: Scientists finished analysing the "black box" recorders from the Air India airliner which crashed near Ireland last month, as a former Indian air force chief said yesterday that he believed an explosion might have been responsible.

Mr John Young, a specialist from the US National Transportation Safety Board, said that US experts had completed collection and analysis of information from cockpit voice and flight data recorder tapes in Bombay.

"More often than not, we get questions from these boxes rather than answers but we have now got the right questions to ask before we go about working on the wreckage," Mr Young said.

At least five US aviation experts helping Indian scientists to study the recorders have said it is too early to draw any conclusion.

The recorders were retrieved 11 days ago from the Atlantic where the Boeing 747 crashed on June 23, killing all 329 people on board.

The former Air Chief Marshal of India, Arjan Singh, said that he personally believed an explosion might have ripped open the jet.

"My own view is that some sort of explosive in the forward section of the plane must have prevented the pilot from sending messages," Mr Singh said. "I don't say it was a bomb. If it had happened in the rear of the aircraft there would have been time, even a few seconds, in which to send out a distress signal."

Indian officials do not rule out sabotage and two Sikh groups are reported to have claimed responsibility for bombing the plane out of the sky. US investigators said last week the voice recorder tape ended abruptly as if the plane's electrical system had been suddenly switched off.

Mr Singh, aged 65, who joined the Indian air force in 1950 and became the first Indian to hold the rank of air chief marshal said he doubted a theory that debris from jetisoned Soviet space rockets might have struck the airliner.

"I don't think so. Mind, you, it's going to happen one day. If something had struck the plane, say a wing, it would have been able to continue flying for a short time," he said. — Reuters.



Devastated: The hall after the blast

## Man killed in blast at Sydney service

From Richard Taylor in Melbourne

One man was killed and 70 people were taken to hospital after a bomb exploded yesterday during a Jehovah's Witnesses service in Kingsdon Hall in the Sydney suburb of Lurnea.

The explosion occurred close to the speaker's desk just as Mr David Winder, a visiting elder from the Sydney suburb of Prospect, had begun his address on loyalty to God and the family. Mr Winder, aged 39, was blown through the roof of the building, receiving multiple fractures and injuries.

Police did not release the name of the dead man, who was sitting in the front row. He is believed to be a father

of three. His wife was also injured in the blast, but their three children escaped unharmed.

More than 100 people attended the service. The explosion destroyed half the building, and tore a hole in the aluminium roof.

Thirteen of the 70 people taken to hospital were still there last night and the condition of two adults and one three-month-old baby was said to be serious. Some of the injured refused blood transfusion because of their religious beliefs.

Police have no idea of the motive for the bombing, nor has any group claimed responsibility, but it is thought to have been caused by a former member of the congregation with a grudge.

## Japan's kingmaker no longer in control of the succession

With Tanaka in a wheelchair, rivals fight for office

From Robert Whyman in Tokyo

WHILE the former prime minister, Mr Kakuei Tanaka, struggles to walk again and to regain normal speech, old rivals, and old friends too, are (not too subtly) making a play for the highest office in Japan.

At the moment, the presidency of the Liberal Democratic Party and the premiership that comes with it, belong to Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, whose term has another 18 months to run. But he has to decide his moves carefully, in the light of forecasts, by senior colleagues, that Mr Tanaka will not return to active politics in the near future—that his kingmaking days are over.

Mr Nakasone could not have come to power in 1982 without Mr Tanaka's backing, and he also owes his second term to the most powerful figure in the party and government.

With his main benefactor out of commission, the Prime Minister may have to abandon his ambition for a third term, which would require a change in party rules and all the clout of Mr Tanaka's faction.

With Mr Tanaka, felled by a stroke in February, in a wheelchair, his army of followers is in disarray.

The fight for control of the faction is intensifying, between Mr Susumu Nakai, the vice-president of the party, and the Finance Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita, erstwhile loyal associates of Mr Tanaka.

Mr Takeshita is seen as the architect for forming a "study group" (a euphemism for a mutiny) to promote his ambitions to run for prime minister, against Mr Tanaka's wishes.

The group may have recruited over half the faction—MP's wary of showing their true colours in the early days of Mr Tanaka's illness, when an early rehabilitation seemed likely.

Since Mr Tanaka insists he is still in command, as proxy for Mr Tanaka, and at a big fund raising party last month appealed to the assembled faction members to maintain unity.

He and Mr Takeshita shook hands, and smiled. No one expected them to cross swords before 8,000 guests, among whom was the American ambassador, Mr Mike Mansfield.

While Mr Takeshita and Mr Nakai, beneath their public smiles, manoeuvre for control of Mr Tanaka's faction, tradi-



Mr Tanaka: followers are in disarray

tional foes have seized the chance of Mr Tanaka's illness to jockey for position. The Foreign Minister, aged 60, is considered a strong contender to succeed Mr Nakasone. Like Mr Takeshita, who is 61, he is called a "new leader" in the press, though there is nothing fresh about either man.

He is the heir apparent to the faction of the former prime minister, Mr Tanaka Fumiko, a sprightly 80-year-old who has no sign of calling it a day. Marrying the daughter of the former prime minister, Mr Nobusuke Kishi, was the key to his career—nepotism is blatant in the Japanese Parliament.

Another aspirant for the party leadership is Mr Kijichi Miyazawa, a former foreign minister who has a leading role in the faction led by the former prime minister, Mr Zenko Suzuki. This is the second largest block in the LDP.

With a weak personal power base, Mr Nakasone has to cast around for new allies. He may have already decided, some commentators say, that Mr Takeshita is the man to back if he (Mr Nakasone) is to retain some influence after he steps down.

Mr Takeshita, is a baby-faced opportunist with no recognisable talent except a high skill at political fundraising. Like his chief Mr Tanaka.

War chests of the warring groups are now being refilled for a long campaign ahead — a sure sign that the power struggle is under way beneath the Chinese veneer of decency.

Fundraising parties are being held, several in a week, by members of the conservative ruling party, to get round the law imposing limits on political donations from companies.

A mammoth reception staged last month by Mr Susumu Nakai sold over 30,000 tickets and raised an estimated 900 million yen in untaxed political funds.

There was barely standing room for 8,000 people who showed up at a Tokyo hotel, and the occasion intended to display factional unity was seen as a show of Mr Nakai's political muscle.

Earlier, out of the (advance) ticket proceeds, he demonstrated he is still in charge of the party's most powerful block, in Mr Tanaka's absence, by handing out two million yen "summer allowance" to 85 faction members (including the rebels who threw in their lots with Mr Takeshita but excluded MPs who have served as ministers).

Loyalty of MPs is a saleable commodity, and money determines the outcome of leadership contests.

The various contenders are also competing vigorously for favourable exposure in the media — another clue to the gathering momentum of the power struggle. Mr Miyazawa is in the United States meeting top American leaders. The Foreign Minister, Mr Abe, is going beyond the call of duty by projecting himself as a mediator in the Iran-Iraq war.

Some political insiders say that Mr Nakasone, understanding Mr Tanaka is "finished" is enjoying his newfound freedom to act without Mr Tanaka breathing down his neck. In what looked like an act of defiance, Mr Nakasone recently replaced the head of the state railway, regarded as Mr Tanaka's man, with his own appointee, thus ensuring himself control of the breakup and privatisation of the railway system.

The closing of Mr Tanaka's main Tokyo office suggested to some observers that the eclipse of the kingmaker is well under way. It is impossible to judge how well he is recuperating, sheltered in his own home by a protective daughter. Photos released by the family at the end of June, the first since his stroke, were poured over for health clues.

They showed a much thinner Tanaka, sitting on a sofa, a hand, so he is paralysed, resting on his right knee. All three photos had a stiff, unnatural air about them, as if it were a wax figure which had posed for them.

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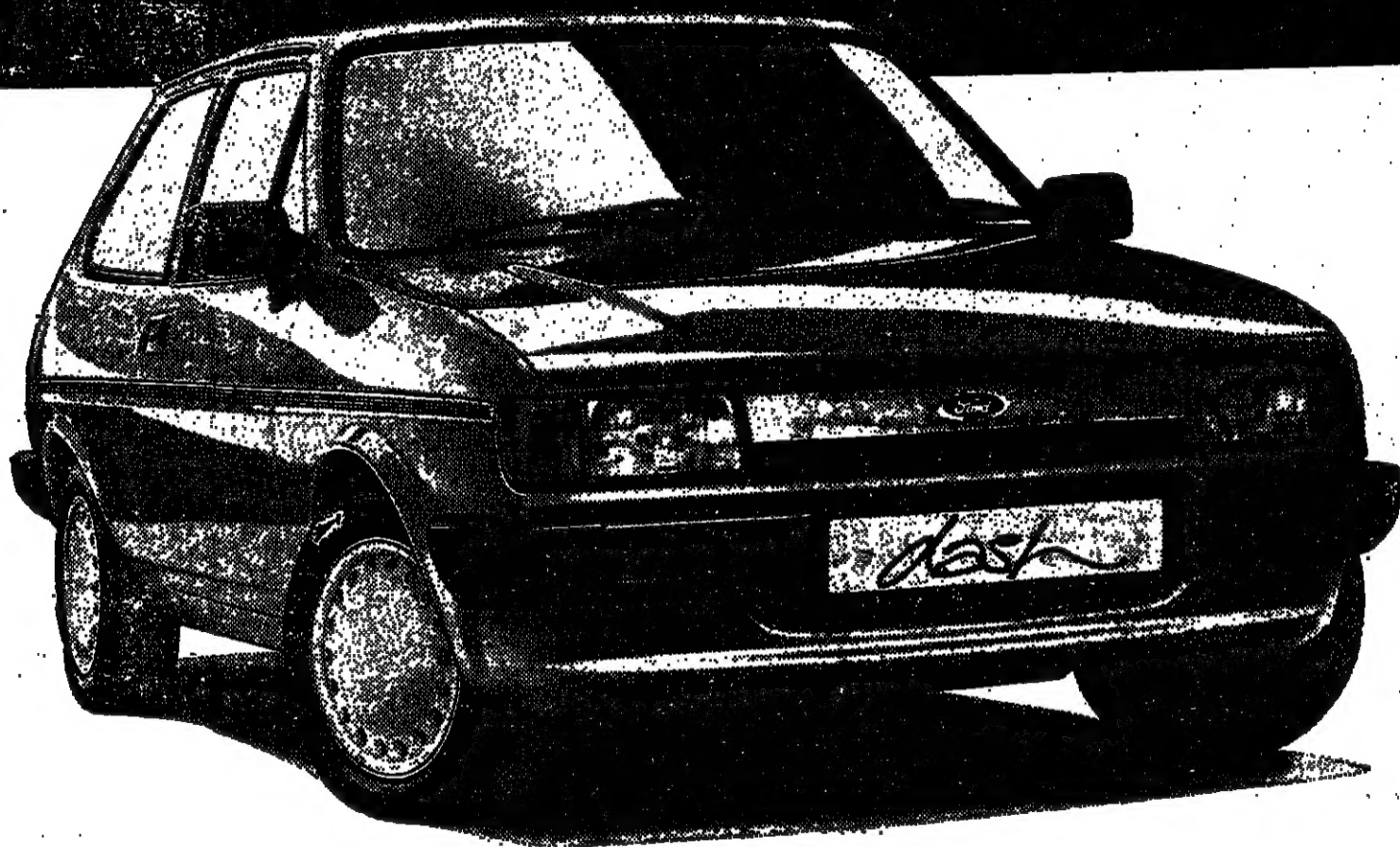




# IT'S EASY TO DEAL WITH FORD.

AMIDST ALL THE BALLYHOO OF THE SUMMER CAR DEALS, HERE'S A SIMPLE GUIDE TO SOME OF THE DEALS YOU CAN MAKE WITH YOUR FORD DEALER.

## THE FIESTA DEAL.



Right now there are deals on Fiestas. Including the dashing little Fiesta Dash on the left.

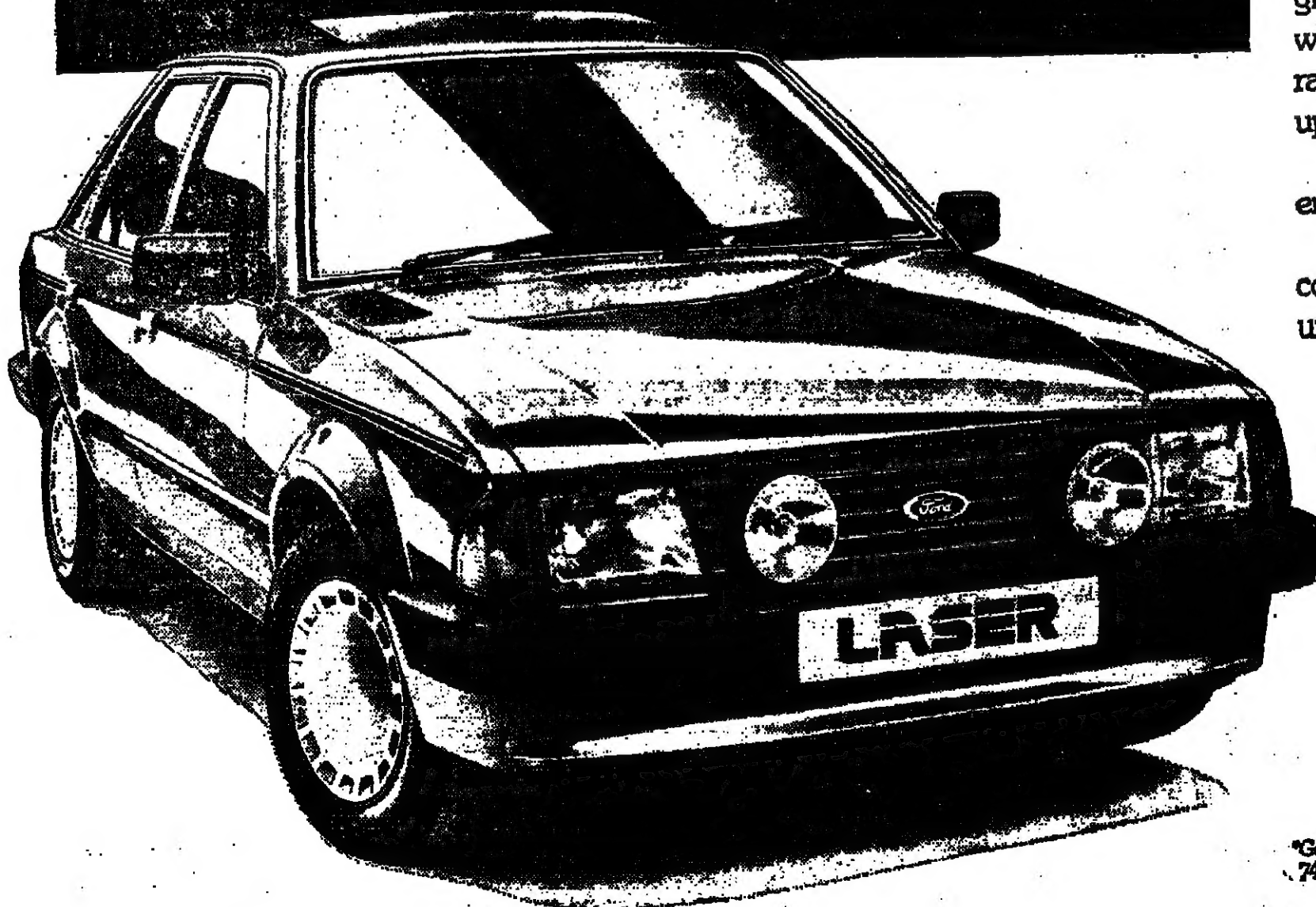
Fiestas have always been fun. None more so than the stylish little Fiesta Dash. With smart tape side stripes, special wheel covers and many other extras included in the price, the Dash is our latest special edition. And today you can get a deal on it.

Or would you prefer a Popular?

Right now with the unique Red Carpet Plan you can drive away a Fiesta Popular, brand new, for just £66.52 – because Ford is prepared to pay £150 of your initial payment, (based on Cash Price £4083.48 – APR 18.7%). Ask your Ford dealer for the full details.

There's even a highly economical Fiesta diesel that can do up to 74 mpg\*. Like the Escort and Orion diesels, it's quiet, efficient and still a nippy little performer.

## THE ESCORT DEAL.



There are deals on Escorts. In particular there's this super special edition called the Laser, a model which gives Britain's best selling car even more of an edge.

The Laser II (pictured left) has body coloured grille and distinctive side stripes. Driving lights. Full wheel covers. A tilting sliding sunroof. A four speaker radio/stereo cassette. Adjustable head rests. Special upholstery. A 60/40 split folding rear seat back.

The Laser II is available with 1300 or 1600 engines. And there's an Estate version.

It would be tremendous value even if you couldn't make a deal on it. Now that you can, it's unbeatable.

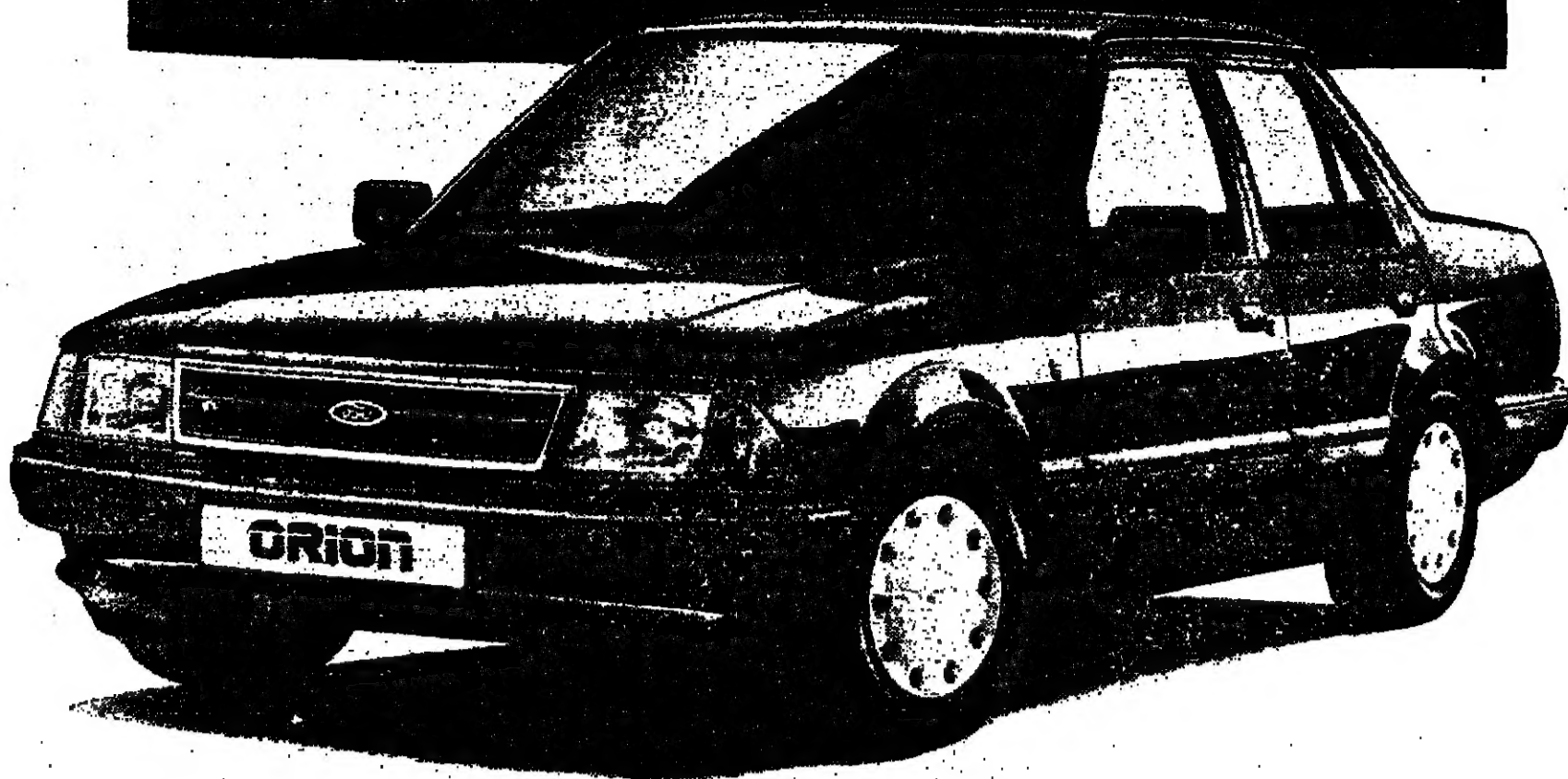
Except perhaps by another Escort.

A Cabriolet, an RS Turbo, a diesel – whichever model you have in mind, right now you'll find it's easier to buy. Who knows, you might find you can afford a better model than you expected.

\*Govt. fuel test figures for Fiesta 1.6 diesel – mpg (litres/100km). Constant 56mpg (50km/h) 74.3 (3.8). Constant 75mpg (120km/h) 50.4 (5.6). Simulated urban driving 56.5 (5.0).



## THE ORION DEAL.



There are deals on Orions too. On everything from the friendly 1600 diesel version to the powerful fuel injected Ghia pictured here.

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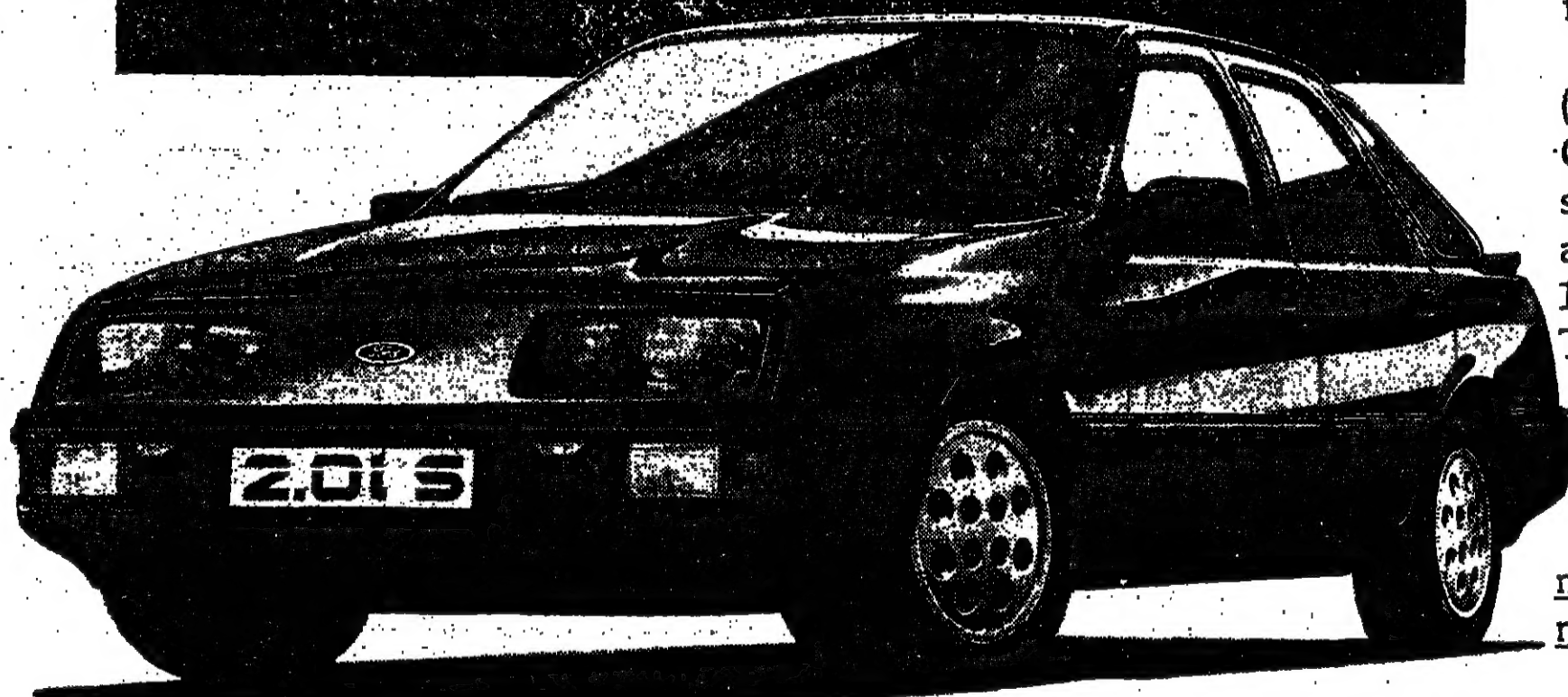
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**'The heroes are all tall, dark, broad shouldered, with blue eyes, dynamic smiles and curly hair. The heroines have warm, generous mouths, tumbling hair, long slender legs and snub noses. They like salads, sketching and skiing'**



Polly Toynbee

**MARY WIBBERLEY** — the very name sounds like a character out of P. G. Wodehouse has sold 80 million copies of her books in the last 13 years. 80 million romantic novels published by Mills and Boon. What do 80 million books look like? How big a warehouse? How many warehouses? And end to end, I calculate that's about 10,000 miles of books.

Now she is imparting her professional secrets to would-be romantic writers in a frank and enthusiastic book called *To Writers With Love*. It tells everything you need to know about the genre, from how to write it, how to get it published and who reads it. It could also appear with little revision, as a literary critics' guide on how not to write books. But Mary Wibberley calls them snobs and gets on with her craft.

She starts by assuming almost anyone can write a romantic novel. "There is, however, one little magic word: *stamina*," she recommends a high-energy diet, fresh fruit and veg, bran every morning, fish and no stodge. "I wake up alert and raring to go. She sets a target of 2,000 words a day, and in 28 days, with virtually no revision, has a finished book of 56,000 words.

But one book does not make a best-seller. "If you've got one beautiful book, it's fine, go ahead and write it, but don't expect to become a best-seller, will you?" The best-sellers write four or more books a year, and gain a loyal following among their readers after several years.

Mary Wibberley is not a languid lady writer in a tea gown, misty eyes drifting over

lilies in a vase, as she pours romance from her fountain pen seated at her antique Georgian desk. She is a robust Mancunian, with a strong Northern accent, a dislike of cant and artiness and no pretensions whatever about her writing. "I tell stories people like reading," is the only claim she makes for her craft.

She does not yearn for fame and immortality in the literary world — apart from occasional sideways references to similarities with Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*. (And doesn't *Fride and Freddie* fit the format precisely?)

In her book, she interviews other Mills and Boon authors, and they all have surprising things in common. The first is an obsessive desire to write, from a very young age, whether published or not, stories flowing out of them in a tumult from the age of six or seven.

They all read like lunatics, voraciously, all kinds of authors, writers far better than what they read does not appear to impinge much on what they write. Mary Wibberley calls herself a collector of words, and describes textures and permutations of a huge vocabulary — but where do they all go when she needs them?

"Where will you get your romantic novel?" she starts one chapter. She is full of examples of the right and wrong way to set about it. She gives two blurbs: "Ethel met Alfred one night in the canteen of the Wigan gasworks where both were employed. Love bloomed instantly among the gasometers and she thrilled to his touch." "and oh but she was heading for a fall." Her favourite type is the Independent-Minded Free Spirit — "Sparks fly from the word go, because she isn't going to be bossed around by any man, is she? Her file of magazine cut-out heroines have women with warm, generous mouths, tumbling auburn hair, long slender legs, well-defined buttocks and snub, tip-tilted noses. They like salads, sketching and skiing.

Then there are the minor characters. "It does help to have several eccentric relatives, to add life and colour to your heroine needs a sympathetic ear in the midst of all her traumas, and an older woman relative is ideal." She often uses actors as her character models — Margaret Rutherford, Finlay Currie and Burt Ives, for instance.

Mary Wibberley asks, "Which one would you be more tempted to buy? I hope

you'll say the second." (Somehow, I don't think she had you, Dear Guardian Reader, in mind.) She says, of course, love may bloom among the gasworks, but romantic novel readers are seeking escapism, so she suggests a tropical island in the Highlands of Scotland (one of her own favourites), the Lake District, Paris, Monte Carlo, a Thames houseboat, or a converted water-mill.

How should you begin your book? By introducing your hero within the first four minutes' reading time. "It is the hero the reader falls for, and it is the hero who brings the book to life for her. And it is the hero we, the writers, fall in love with, because if we don't love him, how on earth can we expect our heroine to do so?"

Of her last book, *Linked With the Past*, she says, "I fell instantly in love with my Russian hero and wrote the entire manuscript in trembling anticipation — honest!"

They are all tall, dark, broad-shouldered, narrow-waisted, with blue eyes, hairy chests, dynamic smiles, and curly hair. Where does she find them? She keeps a file called *Heroes*, full of photographs of film stars and male models cut out of magazines. They usually wear black or dark clothes, and glower in the opening chapters like Heathcliff. "Some of the imagery is extremely potent," she says, explaining her preference for black — but she says *destina, corduroy, suede and leather* also give a hero virility.

Her heroines are all "spiced" and she lists her eight types, from Cinderella to *Wealthy Spoilt Playgirl* — "and oh but she was heading for a fall." Her favourite type is the Independent-Minded Free Spirit — "Sparks fly from the word go, because she isn't going to be bossed around by any man, is she? Her file of magazine cut-out heroines have women with warm, generous mouths, tumbling auburn hair, long slender legs, well-defined buttocks and snub, tip-tilted noses. They like salads, sketching and skiing.

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montage by DAVID TURNER

... Your heroine needs a sympathetic ear in the midst of all her traumas, and an older woman relative is ideal." She often uses actors as her character models — Margaret Rutherford, Finlay Currie and Burt Ives, for instance.

Now, you need a plot, and the essential ingredient is some fundamental and titillating clash between hero and heroine before they fall into each other's arms at the end. She lists these conflicts as family feuds, cultural differences,

attitudes to money, conflicting jobs, false assumptions and clashes of life style. Finally, you need some words with which to glue the whole thing together. Mary Wibberley is most enthusiastic about a book called *The Synonym Finder*. "It has 61

definitions of the word 'virile' — which is what all your heroes are, of course. And for 'spiced', which is what all your heroines are, you get 66 ways to express it."

She recommends a book of quotations for titles. She also gives a handy list of ways to avoid "he said" and "she said." Her mammoth list includes *avowed, babbled, burst out, drawled, lamented, moaned, prattled, parried, quavered, rejoined, riposted, stormed, and vowed.*

She does not favour plain and simple statement of fact. Instead of "She didn't want to listen to him any more," she felt tired and weak — and tearfully she recommends the aspiring writer to consider this — "She put her hands to her ears, tears of tiredness and weakness filling her eyes and spilling down her cheeks, and her soft golden hair tumbled about her face as she shook her head helplessly."

Now, an important point. How much sex does the modern romance require? Until 12 years ago heroes and heroines never went to bed together. Five years ago they did occasionally, when it was quite clear they were going to get married, and it happened off-stage. Now, she says, regrettably, lamentably? "Almost anything goes, which in my opinion is a pity, for when the limits of descriptive license are reached, what on earth can happen next?"

But how does a writer summon up the zest for these passionate scenes? "It is far easier to write passionate prose last thing at night, when everyone has gone to bed and you are alone. Picture the scene. It is nearly midnight, the house is quiet save for your favourite mood music playing softly in the background. Just you and your hero and heroine warbling in the wings, as it were, for the action to begin. You don't know what is going to happen any more than they do, but if they are in a romantic mood, the mood is right, who knows? You know them both well, they are the living breathing human beings. . . . Don't worry, she says, what

your mother, aunt, granny, old teacher will think "If you let this fear inhibit you, you might as well never write at all."

Who are the readers? Sociologists at Sheffield University discovered it has become a genre read mainly by young married women, not older women as previously supposed, hence the shift in attitudes towards sex. Thirty per cent of women reading a book at any one time are reading a romance. It is a very English invention, but has recently spread rapidly to America and round the world (Mills and Boon publish in Holland under the imprint *Boonquet Reekes*).

The rewards for top writers can be tremendous. Mary Wibberley says (confesses, avers, declares) she earns £20,000 a novel and writes four a year. That's the very top, and she has a loyal readership around the world. But it isn't easy to break into. She had her first five books rejected, and the one that was accepted was the first acceptance after Mills and Boon had read through 6,000 other unsolicited manuscripts. There is also the new *Sixty Trask Award* to try for, £12,000 a year given to the best "romantic or traditional" novel each year.

If anyone thinks they can try their hand at this, then Mary Wibberley's book is undoubtedly an excellent guide. She makes glueing a book together out of cut-out heroes and heroines, ready-made plots and settings sound far easier than making an Airtex model or following the instructions on a self-assembly dolls-house. But, Dear Reader, before you are carried away by the idea that anyone can do it, put your hand on your pink satin lace-trimmed heart and vow you are sincere. For Mary Wibberley says most firmly that no one can do it with tongue in cheek — sincerity is the vital ingredient.

*To Writers With Love* — On Writing Romantic Novels by Mary Wibberley. Bantam and Enigma. £3.95. Published August 15. The book is a competition to be judged by the author, offering £100 to the best first 100 words of a romantic novel.

## Till the law us do part

AS the United Nations Decade for Women draws to a close, the British Government has been found guilty of sex discrimination in its immigration laws.

The first female British Prime Minister was in fact elected on a manifesto committed to curbing the rights of women living in Britain to bring in their foreign husbands or fiancés. Why? Because to prevent women from living in Britain with the husbands of their choice was one way of limiting black immigration to this country even further, without affecting the right of white British men to choose their wives from anywhere in the world.

As former Home Secretary William Whitelaw said in defence of the Conservative Party's position on this issue, "the abode of a husband in a

marriage should normally be viewed as the natural place of residence of the family."

Since British law provides no remedy against this blatant discrimination for the thousands of women forced by the immigration rules to choose between staying in Britain alone, or living with their husbands abroad, took their cases to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. It took five years for the Court to decide, in May this year, that the British Government was guilty of sex discrimination against the women.

As a result the Government was forced to change the law. The new immigration rules, which are being debated in Parliament tomorrow, represent the most cynical response of any government

to a European Court judgment to date.

First, the new rules do not eliminate sex discrimination. Many categories of immigrant, including students, work-permit holders, businessmen, writers and artists, are still able to bring their spouses and children in with them, while women in identical situations cannot.

And all British or Commonwealth men settled in Britain before 1973 (when the Immigration Act came into force) are still in a better position than women — they alone have an unfettered right, in law at least, to bring in their spouses. This protects virtually all British men of marriageable age for years to come. A British man's home is still his castle!

Secondly, where sex equality is being introduced in the

The new immigration rules, to be debated in Parliament tomorrow, do little for women — and not a lot for men. Jacqueline Bhabha and Francesca Klug explain

new rules, it is largely being achieved by levelling down the position of men to that of women. It is as if a business were to comply with the Equal Pay Act by lowering the wages of its male employees to those of its female workers. What the new rules are doing is extending the oppressive regulations which limit the right of women to bring in their spouses to men settled here after 1973.

One of these regulations is the notorious "primary purpose" rule (not to be confused with other clauses designed to prevent so-called bogus marriages). The primary purpose rule has prevented thousands of husbands from entering the UK because the main motive for their marriage was suspected to be immigration. But how do you prove what the pur-

pose of your marriage is if the fact that your relationship is genuine, intended to last and has resulted in children is not enough to show that immigration is not its prime purpose?

Take Mrs Gurdeep Sareen for example. She is a British citizen who has lived in the UK since she was 11 years old, has been married nearly three years and has an 18-month-old daughter who did not see her father for over a year because he was refused entry to the UK on the grounds that the primary purpose of his marriage was immigration. "He wasn't even allowed to come to visit us for my daughter's birthday."

The intention and effect of the primary purpose rule has been to keep out poor men from the Indian sub-continent on the spurious grounds

that, in the words of former Home Office Minister Timothy Raison, such men marry British women because they are "economically motivated." In 1984, for example, 46 per cent of husbands and 61 per cent of wives from the Indian sub-continent were refused entry to Britain, 88 per cent on primary purpose grounds.

Another restrictive rule which has been extended to both sexes in the name of equality is what amounts to a means test on family life. The regulation which has forced men who settled here after 1973 to prove that they can "support and accommodate" their family before they are allowed entry is being applied to all women in this country. Many black women, who are among the lowest paid workers in this country, will fall foul of this rule. And

under the new rules financial viability has to be proved for the indefinite future.

Family life is being attacked even further by the introduction of a completely new and unexpected rule which puts children coming to join parents in this country on probation for a year. This hardly accords with the Conservative Government's claim to be the custodian of family life and is a flagrant breach of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

Immigration and nationality laws have oppressed women and divided families since their inception. At the turn of this century the suffragettes lobbied against this inequality. Today it is black women, immigrant women and white women married to black men — those most af-

ected by these laws — who are mounting a sustained and vociferous campaign against them. Groups have sprung up in London, Leicester, Bristol and Manchester to pressure the Government to comply with the European judgment and introduce immigration rules which are truly non-racist and non-sexist. As Gurdeep Sareen, "I feel it is a sin to keep a married couple apart who can't just play with two people's lives."

Jacqueline Bhabha and Francesca Klug are co-editors of *Worlds Apart: Women Under Immigration and Nationality Law*, published by Pluto Press in May 1985, for the Women Immigration and Nationality Group. £4.95. They are also members of the Immigration Widows Campaign (c/o South Kensington Law Centre, 131 Upper Street, London N1).

## Sincerely Yours



## Vanity Fair

EARLY one Sunday morning, high upon a hill in Uxbridge Park but partly hidden by shrubbery, two policemen stood at the mouth of a Hole. In fact on that very same morning all over Britain, other policemen stood at the mouths of 869 other Holes because that Sunday was Warman Exercise Day for the Royal Observer Corps. A chance for its members to practise their vital war-time monitoring tasks in the event of nuclear war.

Since ROC's beginning in 1926 there have been many sad years during which it was obsolete, but now, thanks to modern technology, its members are all busy again, measuring away at bomb-blasts and fallout, and the Sunday practices are a peak of activity for them, when the Holes come alive with smartly uniformed (but purely civilian) men and women, nearly all voluntary, wearing headphones, speaking briskly into telephones and plotting things on maps.

It may seem an unlikely place to find romance, but many marriages originate in these Holes, or in larger bunkers. Perhaps being packed into a small rather cosy area with likeminded persons does it, or perhaps the air of excitement and all being a bit of a secret.

Even Uxbridge Park Manager doesn't know when exercises are going on. It's none of his business. That bit of Uxbridge Park is owned by a Trust and ROC have statutory right of access, which is a bit of luck. Uxbridge being a Nuclear Free Zone.

Only two things betray ROC's presence — a blue plastic dome and a white canvas, which, from above, look like a bomb power indicator may peep out and measure blast peak-overpressure and fallout plumes, providing a helpful picture of what's going on up there so that millions of lives may be saved.

Meanwhile, down the concrete shaft and inside the bowels of the Hole, Uxbridge ROC, who are, as it were, the Front Line, report to Group Control on the blasts and plumes above them. They were, that all Sunday, sitting upon a pretend scenario of their bit of war sent to them by our Home Office.

This given scenario bears no relation to real government targets and is greatly exaggerated, because, as the Home Office spokesman explained, "You've got to have some sort of saturation bombing to keep everyone busy."

Anyway, Uxbridge CND almost spoilt everything this time. They poured wet cement round the mouth of the Hole on Friday night hoping to ruin things, which accounts for the two Mr Floods, but the Corps must have priced it open somehow and by 8 am they were down there on the job.

CND must learn to think positive. They could regard the ROC system of Holes as a reverse Rapture Theory (the one supported by Reagan the Bimbo and other persons over in the New World) in which, when the Apocalypse comes, believers are sucked up, whoosh, even through the very roofs of their homes or Hamburger and Weeny Bars, straight to Heaven, where they shall dangle in rapture for a while until it's all over, then shall be lowered gently down into a newly purged world.

Whereas here, persons who believe shall be sucked down, into ROC Holes, which could be seen as a series of womb-like mini-paradises, then after a few days, out they'll all come to start the world anew.

They shall not be hurt who have the seal of ROC on their foreheads and a Hole at the bottom of their garden.

Michele Hanson



Monday July 22 1985

# Arms and the woman in peril

YOU MAY not forget the committed view of history as blood and conquest but you have to grant the Royal Tournament (1985-1) is a great opportunity for the media malapropos to brush up their word power. There was the horse artillery wheeling into action and there, commented Mike Smith proudly, as the camera picked out a crew looking like spare parts on the sidelines. "There is the leg over party," which you might expect to be the most popular posting in the whole army; but it turns out they are, there in case a horse gets its leg over the trees.

That didn't happen, though a gun carriage did overturn, all 14 tons of it, and the leg-overs turned out not to be so spare after all and were whipped back on its wheels like a crashed Dinky toy.

There were also the Navy

men about to take part in the annual gun carriage race who are, Smith informed us, "the best fed men in the Tournament." They get one third extra food in the mess, and it looks as though they are just about ready to go. So would I be. As for the Royal Marines, last seen eating worm amulets and playing Birdy on a cliff in some other television recruiting programme, they were there with their thunderclashes, recruiting a hostage.

Out of the pill box — I almost wrote hammer — and into the muck of smoke and battle-blackened men stepped the spotlight vision of a slender girl, like Fay Wray delivered from King Kong; hauled out and dropped several feet into the arms of a waiting Commando and born away in what can only be described as the vertical missionary position. "They thought it was a diplomat in there," cried Smith, "but in

## Hugh Hebert on the Royal Tournament and the rest of the weekend's TV

fact it was Leading Wren Barlow who gets carried away like this every night."

Still, Smith did accept the challenge to try abseiling down from the Earls Court roof, as the Commandos had. And as he said, if the Marines failed to catch him at the bottom, probably no one would and him till they swept up for next year's Boat Show. And what a wasted talent that would have been.

Ms Barlow's summer gear was hardly more surprising than the chic outfit Jennifer Black wore as a Glasgow teacher in Why Do They Call It Good Friday? (BBC-1). With her creamy suit and large airy fan, she was clearly in need of no more than 5 per cent, but could

## Edward Greenfield at Glyndebourne

knowing that this one — being no fool — will soon return to the coop.

It must anyway have made more comfortable family viewing than Drugwatch (BBC-1). Like Central's Kicking the Habit couple of weeks ago, it offered some hope and some cheer. The tenor of television's approach has shifted — from pure scare-mongering to something more positive. Whether the advice Just Say No is positive enough, I'm not sure, being by nature dubious about simple moral imperatives as solutions to complex social problems.

The certainties of the Hungarian peasants in The Cry Of The Slog (People to People, C4) are of a different order. The great Hungarian Plain makes Norfolk look like the Pennines, and Jane Carter's film about rural communities there had a fine

## Serial Simon

SETTING Mozart's great opera seria, Idomeneo, inside the bare paper walls of a Japanese gymnasium may bring painful purity to a stylised and complex classical story, but you get the sense that the associations between Japan and opera too readily suggest Puccini and Sullivan.

So in this latest revival of Trevor Nunn's Glyndebourne production first seen two years ago, it is hard not to see in the long-suffering Ilia a Butterfly figure, and less helpfully the upstanding Idomeneo (a tenor in the Glyndebourne version) becomes Nanki-Poo, with Elektra suggesting Katisha.

But once you suppress such intrusive thoughts, there is much gain from the simplicity. As Nunn has noted, the opera is a story of a country already on its knees.

Simon Rattle, the conductor this year, equally intensifies the emotional thrust of Mozart's amazing score, not with unwanted romantic overblownness but with an extra rhythmic incisiveness established at the very start of the overture. Where Bernard Haitink two years ago took a broad, spacious view, Rattle has you registering with new excitement the close continuity of the piece.

At Glyndebourne Acts 1 and 2 are run together with palpable gain, taking one breathless to the breathtaking moment ending the second act, when the hushed horror of the chorus fades into a whimper, avoiding the expected bang of finality.

Particularly when the text of the Neue Mozart Ausgabe has been used for this production, it is surprising that Glyndebourne persists in its preference for a tenor Idomeneo.

The American, John Aler, in 1979 a capable Ferrando in the Glyndebourne Così, copes well with what in context brings a dangerous slowing down. The aria is elegant and beautiful but not to be considered as part of the opera, says William Mann firmly in his book on the Mozart operas, but here Mr Aler turns it into a short-stopping punctuation point.

Idomeneo's Fuor del mar immediately preceding, heroically sung by Philip Langridge if with not quite sharp enough focus.

What should have sharpened the whole presentation — as it does in many a production of Idomeneo — was the casting of Elizabeth Connell as Elektra, who if her Salzburg performances are anything to go by, would have presented a fire-eater. Miss Connell, having been played by the Floties in the production later in the season, and Helen Walker, winner of the John Christie Award in 1981, has stepped in, singing brightly and precisely with fine projection but with too little variety of expression.

## Fat Man's war

Bomb Culture. To end the cycle of 40-year reminiscences of veterans of the Axis War, we come to the scenes featuring Little Boy and Fat Man. President Truman, who knew nothing of the assembly of nuclear-bombs labelled the Manhattan Project until Roosevelt's death put him in the White House, observed on despatching the bombers to knock Japan over that it was "the biggest thing in history." It looks even more that way now, even if the tone of voice in which it's said has changed.

Nine months after the event that changed the outlook, during which time a mass of scientific and statistical speculation was published, the New Yorker assigned John Hersey, a Pulitzer winner for his first book, to visit the devastated site of the first explosion to write a report on a more human scale. He did so by collating the hourly experiences of six survivors from the first flash and blast, through fire and wind and universal disintegration.

On receiving the first instalment the magazine changed its mind about serialisation, pressed him to complete, and for the first time devoted an issue exclusively to one story. Nothing else had brought the impact home so effectively as the spare and graphic account of Hiroshima (1946, Penguin £1.75), nor has it been diminished by time.

Of the three other books to hand, brought out this week partly as memorials to the same immolation, the most recent is also connected with hibakusha, the Japanese word for the surviving martyrs. Peter Townsend is a rather awkward writer, by no means seamless, and in his preambles to the story of The Peace Man Of Nagasaki (1984, Penguin £1.95) he constructs a jerky potted history of the war with the apparent aim of showing there was no need to deliver the bombs on a country already on its knees.

But he writes other people's lives better than he did his own, and when he comes to the American Taniguchi, who was 16 when caught at a disfiguring but not lethal distance from the

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Charles de Ledesma  
reviews WOMAD  
**Mersea sounds**  
BY locating this year's WOMAD on Mersea Island, our subculture's quaint tradition of holding festivals in almost impossible out of the way places was strictly adhered to.  
Friday night's weather was mercifully stable as Somo Somo, one of London's best African bands led by guitarist Mose Fan Fan's wide rhythmic circles and Doreen Webster's luscious voice raced into renditions of the Central African style, soulful in contrast to the West Berlin, Lesotho, played moody deep folk songs which exuded both beauty and pain.  
Blowzabella took us back to the Celtic with their highly original baroque folk, jigs, reels, slow ballads and burr's and runders from Southern France were played on hurdy gurdys, pipes, ad-

Thomas Mapfumo: the soulful sound of Shona  
organ and flute with an uneasy intuitive charm — this is music, they told us, to ride bareback over the Mongolian grasslands to Panchavadyam from Kerala in India were a drum ensemble of staggering speed and the The Bogomoro Group from Tanzania sang and danced feverishly over fluttering Mbira and pounding drums.  
Soon after the dreaded coastal squalls had dimmed Thomas Mapfumo, Zimbabwe's top singer and aural chronicler of his country's yearning for liberation, sang This guttural, pained voice is the most soulful on the continent and though by singing in Shona the infections and nuances of his language are lost to us the sheer force of his passion on songs like Mabasa can't fail to overwhelm.

Edward Greenfield  
at Glyndebourne  
**Serial Simon**  
SETTING Mozart's great opera seria, Idomeneo, inside the bare paper walls of a Japanese gymnasium may bring painful purity to a stylised and complex classical story, but you get the sense that the associations between Japan and opera too readily suggest Puccini and Sullivan.

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& TANIA ALEXANDER  
DIRECTED BY CHARLES STURRIDGE  
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REDUCED PRICE PREVIEWS FROM JULY 25TH

CAMBRIDGE  
William Davies  
**The Messiah**  
THIS second major choral concert of the Cambridge Festival was built around the familiar sounds and surroundings of King's College choir. In a strictly traditional English choral setting, at a middle of the road audience in terms of authenticity, to plain but vigorous mood, the English chamber orchestra gave reliable support under Stephen Cleobury, but the gentlemen of the famous choir for once seemed complacently routine, barely showing signs of life in part 1.  
Only in the later stages did there emerge the eagerness and clear verbal articulation for which the choir is famous, most predictably in the Hallelujah chorus which was lifted by the audibly significant but otherwise unaccountable contribution of the soloists. On the other hand, the soloists were bright eyed and lively, and seemed more generally interested in entering into the spirit of this festive occasion.  
Nor did the soloists entirely escape a sense of the routine, although Michael Chance alone sang his arias with a combination of power, refinement and imagination which left his colleagues some way behind. How sad then that "He was despised" was so severely cut that bass Michael Pearce was allowed to sound the trumpet at full length in increasingly effortful voice.  
William Kendall articulated the tenor solos with strength and flexibility, although at his side the comparatively unvarnished style of Emma Kirkby seemed inevitably at odds with the scale of her surroundings.

RAH/RADIO 3  
Frank Barker  
**Handel/ Accardo**  
IT WAS with a sense of humour as well as cunning that the BBC opened the proms with the Messiah, the only Handel work featured in their season, in the rarely heard Mozart version with its German text. They have thus managed to pay their tenuous tribute without playing a single bar of the pure Handel, with which we are being deluged everywhere else.  
No doubt purists' feathers were ruffled, but the smooth and affectionate performance by Sir John Pritchard and the BBC Symphony Orchestra and singers, even though it sometimes lacked ideally full control, afforded a rewarding experience.  
Mozart's orchestration changes the character of the music so radically that the Messiah has to be approached on its own terms rather than those of Handel's original. Most strikingly, the music loses its robust brilliance as a result of the rich wind textures which replace Handel's high, florid trumpet parts, and it must be admitted that the Trumpet Shall Sound cannot a real cropper.  
Also a letdown is the Pastoral Symphony, in which any shepherd conjured up by Mozart's scoring would be of the most debate Dresden, while some of the more gently arranged choruses transport us momentarily to the world of Così Fan Tutte.  
The soloists, associated rather with Mozart and Rossini than with Handel, provided uncommonly distinguished singing which made a welcome change from the somewhat vegetarian style we hear in more authentic versions. Julia Varady used her powerful soprano to moving as well as exciting effect in I Know That My Redeemer Liveth and delivered her recitatives more expressively. Marilyn Horne, a last-minute replacement, sang a ravishingly controlled He Was Despised complete with a delicate final cadenza. Anthony Rolfs Johnson brought restrained eloquence to the role of Isidor, the Jewish character to his tenor arias, but it was Samuel Ramey who impressed most forcefully with his glowing bass tone and stunning flights of florid singing.  
In spite of the fine performances the Prommers were curiously restrained so that the usual first-night atmosphere was never generated. There was far more enthusiasm displayed at the second concert, which brought Salvatore Accardo in the dual role of soloist in the Beethoven Violin Concerto and conductor of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe.  
These players can always be relied on to bring freshness even to the most familiar work and here they responded with manifest delight to Accardo's high-spirited approach to Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony. Everything was light and frothy, a little shallow perhaps yet appropriate for a summer evening. They showed their mettle even more impressively by the way they caught just the right French accent in their idiomatic playing of Ravel's Tombeau de Couperin.  
Accardo's playing of the concerto revealed all the sweetness and purity of the tone that was expected, and his total technical security and freedom from mannerism gave his performance remarkable spontaneity. His thoughtful reading of the first movement was followed by a magically poetic account of the second, and only in the playful finale would a rather more extravagant approach have been welcome.

Michael Billington hails a superb new comedy by Peter Barnes that has just opened at the Barbican  
reduced Floties with a true religious-based on joy, laughter and communal wealth. I was reminded anachronistically of the early Protestants whom Thomas More upbraided for their "lured lightness of mind and vain gladness of heart."  
While celebrating happiness, the play also amounts to a continual discourse on the nature of laughter itself. Barnes in a scene of staggering audacity, makes us laugh affectionately as the Floties head who include a blind juggler, two one-legged dancers, and a stand-up comic with a fatal stutter.  
But he also asks whether every joke is a small revolution or simply a diversion from reality. "I tried to lift creation from bondage with mirth," says Flote, concluding that all he did was provide a capering sideshow. But Barnes's play answers its own question by proving that laughter can shock and stimulate as well as divert. As the crippled post-dancers finish their act, Flote says, "We just saw the very apotheosis of Christianity — the triumph of hope over experience." and we

Who's A Lucky Boy?  
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DIRECTED BY GRAHAM MURRAY  
"Who's A Lucky Boy fills this fascinating auditorium with Gerald Scarfe's grotesque comic and colourful costumes."  
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**A brilliance born out of the black death**  
PETER BARNES'S Red Noses at the Barbican is a brilliant play. It also does something rare in modern drama: it presents us, unselfishly, with a vision of love and hope. Sure enough, by the end that vision has been clouded by the return of institutional authority. But Barnes has written a tremendous life-affirming piece that celebrates the human spirit while deriding those who would tyrannise and enslave it.  
As in a previous play, Laughter (which dealt with the Terrible and Auschwitz), Barnes brings humour from a forbidding subject: in this case the black death. But where the previous work seemed like a technical exercise, this one has roots in historical truth. It presents us with a sprightly priest, Marcel Flote, who forms a troupe of Christ's Clowns and God's Zanyes who tour the plague-stricken areas of 14th century France putting on shows like a madcap ENSA.  
Initially encouraged by Pope Clement VI in Avignon they survive attacks by the sin-obsessed flagellants as well as the death and deflection of their members. But the end of the plague means a return to the normality of hierarchical power. Their mission has failed except, as someone says, "no man fully completely who shows us glory."  
Barnes's great rich, job-packed stew of a play does many things. At its most basic it questions doctrinal Christianity with its emphasis on guilt and expiation: as Father Flote says, "The Church can't stop you sinning, but it can stop you enjoying it." But, while deriding powers and principalities, Barnes presents us through the reduced Floties with a true religious-based on joy, laughter and communal wealth. I was reminded anachronistically of the early Protestants whom Thomas More upbraided for their "lured lightness of mind and vain gladness of heart."  
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laughed both at the gag and its jolting truth.  
Like his mentor, Ben Jonson, Barnes sometimes sacrifices narrative clarity to linguistic virtuosity; and the two Pyramus and Thisbe-like interludes played by the Floties fail to make their point (in one instance because of a ridiculous fit of coughing). But I can think of no post-war play that demonstrates so vividly that Socialism (which is what the Floties partially represent) should be a source of gaiety; and few that put on stage so tangible a vision of happiness even down to a riotous Last Supper where the blind man wildly pours soup over people's heads.  
Farrah's set, a smoke-enveloped Flotie, reminds us of the background of death that releases so much laughter (why the play implicitly asks, does it take a crisis to bring human beings together?). And Terry Hands's production miraculously holds together the diverse ingredients of this Dark Ages vaudeville. Anthony Sher as Flote, doing Jack Douglas twitches when he gets a fit of divine inspiration, proves that he can make goodness, as magnetic as evil. Richard Easton as a laid-back Judas-like aristocrat, Polly James as a sexually aroused sister, Nicholas Farrell as a thorn-crowned flagellant and Christopher Benjamin as a flying Pope (at one point delivering dogma from mid-air, lead fine support in a large cast. But the triumph belongs to Barnes who has broken the petty rules by which we judge plays and proves that First and last things can be presented with compassionate hilarity.



## South Africa: a licence to kill

The first state of emergency in South Africa for 25 years means that President Botha has decided to answer the massive and sustained escalation of black protest against discrimination with more repression rather than reform. The decision appears to be the result of pressure from the police and the army which have obviously failed so far to gain the upper hand in the seething townships. As such, it is an admission of defeat as well as another disturbing sign of the increasing influence on government of the blue and khaki generals which rises in inverse proportion to their success rate.

They have already felt free to send squads of men coyly attired in balacavas into the townships, and there is disturbing evidence of the existence of a death squad which chooses as targets for murder people whose continued existence is most likely to embarrass the government. At the same time the violence by and among black residents has become generalised, a fact which the authorities attribute to a conspiracy by the banned African National Congress and the hitherto unbanned United Democratic Front, which wants to replace apartheid with one person, one vote. The new anger seems to have taken ANC and the UDF by surprise so that they, like the authorities are finding it hard to gain control.

The new disorder is qualitatively different because those involved have found a terrible answer to the network of black officials and police informers who until recently underpinned white domination. By murdering African councillors and police officers, or hounding them out of the townships and butchering suspected informers, the youthful gangs in the forefront of the troubles have changed the balance of power in their areas by making alleged collaborators more afraid of them than of the State. All the emergency powers in the world will not change this fact, but they will enable the authorities to round people up by the thousand, as they did after Sharpeville. It will enable them to impose curfews so that those breaking them can be shot on sight, and to arrest and search at will (under the cover of censorship and immunity from prosecution for the state's agents) when their zeal runs away with them. For a police service which was never taught the principles of minimum necessary force and the equality of the citizen before the law, this amounts to a licence to kill without fear of retribution or even publicity.

It is already clear that South Africa passed a point of no return when President Botha and Nelson Mandela the imprisoned ANC leader, failed to come to terms on the latter's release so they could negotiate on justice for the African majority, which still admires Mr Mandela above all others. The government's promises of reform having been met by widespread revolt, Mr Botha's problem now is to regain the initiative which could have been achieved by the release of Mr Mandela. The repression before and after the state of emergency will however ensure that no offer from the Government stands the slightest chance of being taken seriously at home or abroad. This is because the authorities have chosen to see the unrest as a law-and-order problem rather than as a simmering uprising against the legalised discrimination which even the Government publicly recognises as unjust.

Any African who puts his head above the parapet with a view to leading his people has always faced detention or worse. The present unrest shows that the black majority is hydra-headed, so that when its leaders are swept off the board, new and harder figures take their places. As the lights go out at the Cape of Good Hope and the townships brace themselves for the coming wrath of their duty in the West to which Pretoria purports to belong is clear: to call the untrammelled security forces and those who have unleashed them to account before the court of world opinion for everyone who now disappears.

## Hot air and warm oxygen

The media, says Mrs Thatcher, are providing terrorists with the "oxygen of publicity." She wants a voluntary code to turn off the cylinder's tap. Mr Leon Brittan, as Home Secretary, is calling a number of code constructing meetings. Organisations in television, radio and the press are holding their own discussions. And, in America, they are doing likewise. Everybody, in short, is behaving with responsible good will. But nobody should be too surprised if not much comes of the notion.

As always it is important to get the context straight. Mrs Thatcher made her oxygen-filled remarks to the American Bar Association's London conference. She talked generally, but the case she had in mind was specific. Beirut: the TWA hijack; and the media circus that ordeal became on television screens across America as ABC, NBC and CBS scrambled for the best hostage interviews and the most heart-rending shots of the hostages' loved ones. Here, in one sense, was terrorism as soap opera, turning a single incident into simulated international crisis. And, early at times, the terrorist puppet master seemed to have calculated how every twist in his plot would play in the global village of America's parlours. Television wasn't a mere observer of the drama: it had an orchestrated part to play. That, code or no code, should make television reporters pause and think again.

You do not, however, need a global code to achieve the requisite reflectiveness. You need ABC, NBC and CBS to calm down and discuss things amongst themselves. They have lessons to learn. The problem is building some more grandiose edifice upon that narrow and necessary area for reconstruction. Mrs Thatcher, as a politician, naturally seeks world wide initiatives: nothing shown on TV, for instance, "which could assist either the morale or cause of terrorists." Because television, the world over, is much in thrall to licence granting governments, one may guess that such formulations will be soberly considered. But really they are rather silly. If the IRA blows up the centre of Belfast are the BBC and ITN not to report that fact? If a random hijacker takes over another TWA jet tomorrow, how is he supposed to find out whether ABC in New York is carrying the story? And will politicians themselves observe the code they seek to promulgate? No doubt the puppet master of Beirut was jolly pleased to see Vice President George Bush fly to Frankfurt to greet the released hostages and hollowly proclaim America's unimpaired integrity. Will Mr Ronald Reagan in future sign some self-denying ordinance?

There are real issues here — particularly for television editors — but they will get lost if Mrs Thatcher has her over-ambitious, under-researched way. Terrorists aren't put off by Prime Ministers announcing obviously foolish things: like "no hijacked plane will ever be allowed to land in Britain." Terrorists, to the contrary, feed on the challenge of such pother of warm oxygen. Mrs Thatcher would have done better to draw some specific conclusions from Beirut, and then to commend them for consideration. But that, alas, is not her way.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Bonanza at the top, cuts at the bottom

Sir,—We wish to express our contempt for this Government in allowing massive pay rises to the most senior civil servants, who already earn far in excess of the salaries paid to the majority of workers in the Civil Service.

In April, junior grade civil servants were given a pay rise which averaged out at 4.9 per cent. We were also refused access to arbitration. We understand that the reasons given to justify these increases to senior civil servants were: to provide adequate remuneration for responsibility; to maintain morale; and to recruit and retain staff; to provide salaries that reflected those in outside industry.

We would question why low paid civil servants did not get comparable percentage of pay rises.

Most of the staff that we represent work in unemployment benefit offices and job centres. Many are

responsible for ensuring that benefits are paid on time. Without these payments many families would be without money for food and housing. Senior management, on the other hand, seem to spend most of their time thinking up hare-brained schemes to make it harder for our members to do their jobs properly. Who would the unemployed miss most?

Morale amongst the lower grade civil servants has in our experience never been worse. Nearly every civil servant we know is looking for another job. Some have actually just left to sign on the dole because they can't stand their jobs any longer.

Despite what we were told about the members lining up for Civil Service jobs, it has proved impossible to recruit permanent staff in sufficient numbers. The main reason they leave is the low pay and appalling working conditions. We know of many who have left to take home wages under £80 a week.

To add insult to injury, this year the Treasury budgeted for a 3 per cent pay rise for the bulk of civil servants. Because our actual award was 4.9 per cent we have just been told that the extra 1.9 per cent must be paid for by yet more staff cuts. Strikes are beginning to break out over this issue and will in all probability continue.

The decision to pay these large increases merely rubs salt in our wounds and will we hope eventually lead to the Government getting their just reward, i.e. the order of the boot.—Yours faithfully, Joe Ambrose.

Civil and Public Services Association, Unemployed Benefit Office, Eastern Region, and 12 other CPSP members, Waterhouse Street, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Sir,—The announcement of a 4.9 per cent salary increase for top civil servants demonstrates yet again the

appalling double standards of the present government, justifying the increases by the argument that the best people are going elsewhere simply suggests that the teaching profession is regarded as less important than the Civil Service, otherwise the same argument should clearly be applied to the teachers' current grievances.

Keith Joseph baldly admits that he does not know the details of departures from the profession or the extent to which qualified people are discouraged from entering it (World at One, Radio 4, July 19), yet he clearly should be aware of this if his colleagues have the same information about top civil servants.

As a recent university graduate I may be able to offer the minister the useful information that most of my fellow students and myself barely considered teaching as a profession very largely because the financial rewards

are so totally inadequate. If the Government is as concerned with maintaining standards in schools as it claims, why does it not act on that concern in the same manner as it has done for well-off civil servants.—Yours faithfully, Nick Shumma, 52 Preston Road, Southport, Merseyside.

Sir,—As E. L. Whistly so memorably remarked: "I'd rather have been a judge than a coal miner."—Yours faithfully, Ian Farrington, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

Sir,—As a Guardian reader for many years standing and an assiduous reader of your professional columns, I cannot recall an advertisement for a General, Admiral, Air Chief Marshal, Permanent Secretary or High Court Judge.—Yours faithfully, S. Thomas, Milton University, Milton Keynes.

## Real gains from oil losses

Sir,—Far too much attention is being paid to the expected fall in the Government oil revenues at the dollar and the oil price decline.

Hamish McRae states (Guardian, July 17) that the price of oil has fallen about 22 per cent since the Budget was announced. That oil revenue will therefore be £5.38 billion lower than appears to have been assumed.

But this is to look at one side of the account only. A fall of this order in oil costs should boost the economy as a whole by about 1½ per

cent. That in turn will generate more revenue from other taxes to the tune of approaching £2 billion.

In addition, a boost of this order should have some effect in reducing unemployment and thus Government expenditure on social security.

In short, instead of using up more than half the Chancellor's contingency reserve, as Hamish McRae implies, the net effect should be to absorb less than a quarter of it.—Yours, Harvey K. Cole, 9 Clifton Road, Winchester.

## Miscellany at large

Sir,—Just to let (Ms) Anne Gossington (Letters, July 19) know that I took up being a lesbian several years ago, and nobody has, as yet, accused me of being a pipe-smoker. Perhaps this reflects a more tolerant attitude towards "lesbians" in general, and in the future pipe smokers will enjoy the freedom that others have for so long enjoyed!—Yours faithfully, Sally Wilson, London N1.

Sir,—The recent alterations on Crews station must have caused many delays not least along the North Wales coast line. The following announcement heard recently on Radio station must be one of the most useful in the British Rail: "This train is running ahead of schedule due to the lateness of the trains following."

Sir,—Perhaps something additional on Mozart's Christian names (Letters, July 19): Gottlieb is the German version of Amadeus deriving from Latin, Theophil from Greek. All of them are literal translations of Gottlieb. The English translation of all German, Latin and Greek

would be God-love. Is or was there a very English christian name "Godlove"?—Paul Schmetzer, London SW16.

Sir,—I write to correct a statement in your issue of June 28.

It is not true to say that our graduate Sidney Storey has first class honours degrees from Durham and Reading universities. The degree he obtained at Reading was an MSc and there is no classification. When he was admitted to the degree, he himself stated that he had an honours BSc degree from Durham with second class honours.—Yours faithfully, H. E. Bell, University of Reading.

Sir,—As printed, my review of Lord Blake (July 18) contained the following sentence: "The author is tactful about the present leader, even suggesting that Thatcherism may come closer to the hallowed heritage than the Tory dogma of the early part of the decade." This, of course, does not make sense. What I actually wrote was "of the early post-war decades."—Yours, Ben Plimott, Wokingham WCL.

## A COUNTRY DIARY

THE LAKE DISTRICT: A scramble up the waterfalls of Birkdale Gill to reach the Helvellyn ridge followed by the descent of Wharfedale Gorge seemed a useful way of avoiding the crowds on the most-visited mountain in England. Both gills are rough, untracked and unvisited and we linked them by contouring round the upper rim of Birkdale Gorge and Nethermost Cove, seeing nobody all afternoon apart from processions of matchstick figures on distant tourist tracks.

Only the flies in Birkdale Gorge seemed contented. The seething swarms were the most numerous and persistent that either of us could remember and the slippery climbing up the waterfalls with a swirling handkerchief in one hand bordered on the perilous at times. A little later, the flies mercifully blown away by a fresh breeze, we perched in a rocky corner admiring, just below us on a lower ledge of Routhwaite Cove, the superb mountain pool of Hard Tarn. The sun was low, then splashing over boulders and collecting a necklace of pools and, finally, before entering the forest ravine, plunging over sizeable crags in splendid cascades and foaming waterfalls.

A HARRY GRIFIN

above sea-level — surely the highest running water in England. And in winter, nearby, is perhaps the longest-lasting snow patch on west-facing slopes in the district. The spring down, then, was interesting, working down the gill, to see how the first tiny trickle oozing out of the ground gradually gains in strength, first receiving a tributary from the one gill, then splashing over boulders and collecting a necklace of pools and, finally, before entering the forest ravine, plunging over sizeable crags in splendid cascades and foaming waterfalls.

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A HARRY GRIFIN

## Lease said...

Sir,—I refer to Dr Elaine Low's letter (Guardian, July 1) with regard to the options open to the British Government for settlement of its dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

Like all the suggestions put forward by the South Atlantic Council, it starts with the premise that we must accept Argentina's claim to sovereignty and then sort out the best deal possible for the islanders. It was to refute this idea that Britain's forces fought a long and hard and with great sacrifice.

Argentina will continue to be intransigent while she is encouraged by attitudes of people like the South Atlantic Council.

Dr Low states that before 1982 leaseback was acceptable to a large number of islanders; she ignores the fact that it was totally rejected by the islanders' representatives, despite the fact that it was put forward by the then Minister of State as a Hobson's choice.

Until Argentina adopts a more flexible attitude toward its dispute with Britain, there seems little chance that the dispute will end in just solution. If the South Atlantic Council's basis for the settlement of disputes that demand on one side must lead to capitulation on the other were to be extended world wide there would be no disputes but there would be no freedom either.—Yours faithfully, L. G. Blake, (Member for West Falkland Islands)

Sir,—I do not think that either the majority of the British people, nor certainly the present British government, understand the predicament of the Falkland Islands administration.

In the same way that no British Government since the second world war has wanted to be saddled with being "the one" to have given up Gibraltar or the Falklands (among the last vestiges of British 19th century imperialism). Mr Alfonsín cannot leave a legacy to future Argentine governments of having been the one to have given away, for ever, Argentine rights to sovereignty over the Falklands.

It seems to me that although the present Argentine government did not start the Falklands conflict they will have to live with the original sin. Mrs Thatcher will make sure of it. Therefore there is not much chance of a n improvement in relations between Britain and Argentina unless Mrs Thatcher makes a U-turn on this one she goes. Braddon, Barnet, Herts.

## The ladies come up trumps



Sir,—Many of our readers have complained that during the recent European Bridge Championships held from June 22 to July 6 in Salsomaggiore, Italy, not one single report on them appeared in your columns.

We know for a fact that at least one hardened Guardian reader secretly turned to the Times or the Daily Telegraph for his own enlightenment. That this should have been necessary reflects very poorly on your paper in our opinion, and particularly so when you remember that your own bridge correspondent, Riki Marks MBE, whose reputation as the world's leading lady player spans five decades and who is highly respected as a bridge author, was herself present at the Championships.

Furthermore, you may not be aware that some three to four million people count bridge amongst their pastimes. But there is worse to come. Bridge is one of the few activities where Great Britain can boast that she leads the world: our ladies are the reigning world champions and our record in European Championships is second to none.

I set us hope that when our ladies defend the Venice Cup, the Ladies World Championship, later this year in Brazil, your newspaper will afford them the proper coverage that they deserve. Yours faithfully, David Farry, Bridge International, 30 Fleet Street, London EC4.

Marriage guidance under stress

Sir,—In recent weeks it has been announced by the NSPCC that their research into child abuse shows the major cause to be marital distress between parents. Today the building societies have pointed to the growing number of house repossessions following non-payment of mortgages in cases of marital breakdown. For too long marital problems have been conveniently regarded as "domestic" affairs and have not featured prominently as front page news.

It is high time we took another look at problems in marriage. Far from waning as an institution, marriage is as popular as ever, not just among the young first-timers but also among those who have experienced divorce.

The impact of stress in marriage is widespread. The children of unhappy parents, who witness and overhear the scenes, the tears and the threats, absorb the noise. So too do the employers who see the effects in time off, lack of concentration, etc.; GPs, to whom wives particularly often turn at a first sign of problems within the marriage; and the National Marriage Guidance

Council. In Cleveland my local marriage guidance council has a waiting list of well over one hundred to see one of the 20-plus counsellors.

My work is to train and supervise men and women who work as marriage guidance counsellors. Offering skilled counselling help to couples in distress is emotionally charged, moving and rewarding, as well as at times painful and costly in terms of feelings for counsellor and client alike. As an agency the National Marriage Guidance Council desperately needs more counsellors; yet we cannot afford to recruit and train them (it costs £1700 to train a counsellor).

It is also a problem which the NMGC alone cannot be left to solve. It is time for national debate and national action. One in three marriages will end in divorce. It isn't funny; it isn't something which happens to "other people"; and what's more, it won't just go away.—Yours faithfully, Kevin Chatterer, (NMGC Counsellor) Tutor and 38 Lambeth Road, Lamborpe, Middlesbrough.

## Down and out for a duck in Paris and Bloemfontein



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Geoffrey Taylor

AMONG the first victims of the quota system imposed by Parisian restaurateurs on English-speaking diners have been the British. The British All-Purpose Commission of Inquiry and nine of his assessors and their spouses who were with him at the time. It was an unpleasant occurrence. There is no wish, in retrospect, to apportion blame for the ensuing fiasco, but after a gruelling day at the Ministry of the Interior, the Commission felt fully entitled to the canard braisé à l'estragon advertised on the menu.

Purely on its own behalf, the Commission would not think of raising this question with the French authorities. It is learning at this preparatory stage that the French are not much concerned with the smooth. But it cannot be good for the reputation of Britain that people of whom quality for the top people's pay rises announced last week, should be forced to roam Paris hungry and on foot and be seen late at night eating hamburgers from a barrow off the Champs Elysées.

The visit to France was one of a series planned during the forthcoming months to study the public inquiry system in Western Europe and North America. In the event the Commission found after five days that the French public inquiry system is as non-existent as the canard braisé à l'estragon. It learned to its considerable alarm, for example, that France will have built 26 nuclear power stations in five years without anybody giving evidence about them.

It was represented to the inspector that the French practice of actually going ahead and doing things contrasted favourably with the British system of submitting everything to detailed "obfuscating" was the word used by the Commission. However, that its policy of making haste slowly is the right one to pursue.

Unfortunately there is a Francophone trouble-maker among the assessors who insists that in general the French are succeeding where Britain is failing. He points among other things to the Common Agricultural Policy which has been used to keep families running small, diverse, and perhaps not terribly efficient farms whereas the British, by and large, have simply subcontracted their countryside to the insurance companies and pension funds.

There is, of course, no merit in this argument. Who would wish to go back to a populated countryside when people can be much better administered in towns? Nevertheless, it does not bode well for the internal harmony of the Commission as it contemplates its ever-growing agenda. It is symptomatic of a trend towards a general questioning of British moral superiority which the inspector is most anxious to discourage.

The lengths to which this questioning is taken became evident during informal discussions on the voyage back from Cherbourg, when an assessor shocked his colleagues by attacking a South African attitude to apartheid. He said he was as much opposed to apartheid as anybody else but then produced a convoluted argument the substance of which, so far as it can be recalled, is as follows:

What is meant, he asked, by opposition to apartheid? Is it a state of mind in which one says and thinks disparaging things at the mention of South Africa? It is a willingness to stand up and be counted, and if so among whom for doing what?

The problem does not arise, the assessor went on, in South Africa itself. An opponent of apartheid can be recognised there as a person willing to make sacrifices and suffer unpopularity. But what does it mean when a politician here or in the United States, not personally involved in South Africa, declares himself to be an opponent of apartheid? Does that state of being have consequences which can be measured empirically? Or is it more akin to a state of metaphysical transcendence, such as is attained by mystics in profound meditation?

These questions were irrelevant, during a choppy voyage but the assessor had more to say.

The whites in South Africa, he said, stand in relation to the black majority inhabiting that country much as the people of Britain stand to the citizens of their former empire. Britain's colonial history and turned its empire into a self-governing Commonwealth, but South Africa cannot do that because its empire is there in its midst. If simple majority rule is the obvious answer in the one case, the assessor said, he could not understand why it would not have applied in the other.

If the question was basically about privileges enjoyed by one section of the community but not others, then he said the comparison between South Africa and the Commonwealth was equally pertinent. The people of Britain enjoyed a higher standard of living than, say, the people of Tanzania. What ethical considerations applied to the difference between Bloemfontein and Soweto which did not apply to the difference between Godalming and Dar es Salaam?

Although the assessor tried to call a halt to this Socratic questioning the assessor asserted his right since this was an informal

## On line but out of mind

Sir,—Having spent a working lifetime, concerned with the problems of indexing both as practitioner and teacher, I must take issue with F. B. Singleton (Letters, July 18) on the future of university libraries and learned journals. The rosy picture painted of "memory banks of articles" to which access could be gained from a "hall of first inquiry" containing "guides" to "guides" would only be true if inquirers consistently knew precisely what they wanted. Alas, in my own experience this is rarely so.

The exploitation of the physical capacity of computers to store information has been magnificently fostered, but little progress has been made towards conquering the intellectual problems of gaining access to it. Of course, manual indexes are just as inadequate, but at least they offer the possibility of browsing in the general area of interest.

One university lecturer has stated that he makes a practice of noting down the registration numbers of the cars parked outside the library, and about 100 numbers are shelved at those numbers in the library. Rarely does







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For more information about the work ring Mr. M. J. Took on 01-407 5522 ext 7625

Starting salary: experienced Designers £9185-£12,035, recent graduates £8610-£9385 according to qualifications and experience. Salaries include £1365 Inner London weighting.

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For further details and an application form to be returned by 9 August 1985 write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JS, or telephone 0703 610000 (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: T/6612.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

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marketing support role

Beds.

BHRA (British Hydromechanics Research Association) has an international reputation as a major independent contract research organisation and is involved in a major programme of research, particularly in the field of engineering hydromechanics.

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To apply please write enclosing a full C.V. or telephone Steven Homer, Editor, Middle East Computing, Reed Business Publishing Developments, Times House, Throby Way, Sutton, Surrey SM6 4AF. Tel No: 01-861 8757.

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Telephone Heather Evans on 01-877 8787, Ext 288, for an interview.

## DANCE ANIMATEUR

Re-advertisement: Previous applicants need not re-apply.

Applications are invited from experienced and suitably qualified dancers/teachers for the post of Dance Animateur to work in Schools and the Community in Northumberland.

The post is jointly funded by Northumberland and North Tyneside Education Authorities, Northern Arts and the Arts Council of Great Britain, and is tenable initially for one year, from September 1985, at a fee of £7,500 plus travelling allowance. Closing date: 5th August 1985.

Details and application forms from:

NORTHERN ARTS, 18 OSBORNE TERRACE, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE2 1NZ.

Applications should be sent to: Northern Arts, 18 Osborne Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1NZ.

For further details please call Emma Gilly on 01-407 5543.

CRAYFORD RECRUITMENT SERVICES

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Applicants should have extensive experience in journalism or public relations or campaigning together with proven managerial ability.

The successful candidate will be responsible to the Chief Executive for the management of the Press, Campaign and Publicity Unit of 14 staff but the staffing of the Unit is currently under review.

Its functions are:

- To organise Council campaigns in support of Council policies;
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Campaigning will be a major activity, and fair and experience in this area will be very important.

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The salary for the position is under review but is expected to be in the PO7 range £18,006 to £19,080 per annum inclusive and there are excellent conditions of service including a contributory pension scheme and generous leave allowance.

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APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE PERSONNEL OFFICER, CENTRAL LIBRARY, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD S1 1XE. CLOSING DATE 27th AUGUST.

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## CITY OF LONDON

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Applications from employees of GLC or MCCs with relevant experience will be welcome.

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with W.P. and numeracy skills required immediately for Third World research institute.

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Grassroots movement, seeking to develop networks for promotion of PPU campaigns and education in anti-nuclear issues. Experience in administration etc. Experience in the above and commitment to pacifist essential. Salary £10,000.

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## ADMIN ASSISTANT

with W.P. and numeracy skills required immediately for Third World research institute.

Salary to £8,500

Send c.v. to: T. Barfield, L.E.D., 3 Endeavour St, London WC1H 0DD.

Apply in writing to: Romie Martin, RAH DESIGN ASSOCIATES LTD, The Old Cottage, Gable, Keston, Cumbria LA8 0WQ. Tel: 06427 352.

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require a

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## YOU CAN FIND IT IN THE GUARDIAN

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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# The day Mr Rees faced the music and blew it

OF ALL the stupid, insensitive, and damaging features of the Cabinet's decision to go ahead with its pay bonus for a handful of judges, generals, and top civil servants, I suspect that the most stupid and insensitive, and most damaging was contributed by Mr Peter Rees.

Poor Mr Rees has been widely (though, for all I know, inaccurately) tipped for the sack as Chief Secretary to the Treasury in the former approaching Cabinet who reshuffle. He may well have been so tipped when the Prime Minister chose him to face the music over top people's pay and answer questions in the Commons on Friday.

We can now realise with a little more than a year's hindsight that he blew it. Instead of being in a position to understand the fury the Cabinet and expedition had occasioned, Mr Rees was dismissed as a "sympathetic" figure, and his resignation was not only welcomed but also welcomed by the Opposition's sense of justice.

Now, it is bad enough to misjudge the extent of the political uproar, likely to follow the award (among others) of a 50 per cent pay increase to the head of the Civil Service — it was, after

all, a miscalculation made by the Prime Minister and the rest of the Cabinet as well as by Mr Rees. But to suggest that it stems from envy, or is merely a synthetic, implies a degree of insensitivity which would be remarkable in an Indian fair.

Whatever the impact on Mrs Thatcher when she gets out her violet notebook during the recess, Mr Rees's performance has done nothing to recruit new members to his personal fan club on the Tory back benches. On the contrary, the pressure for his replacement at the Treasury has perceptibly increased.

But let us be realistic: Mr Rees's remarks were no more than an extreme reflection of the blinkered ignorance with which ministers from Mrs Thatcher downwards have handled not only this affair but most of the associated matters of public service pay ever since they came into office.

For the Government does have a pay policy, and the public servants are it. And if this fact was not generally understood until recently, it is certainly widely understood now — not least by the teachers.

This is not to say that it is

possible to explain the Government's behaviour towards civil and public service pay entirely in terms of a deep-seated monetarist plot. On the contrary, there has been plenty of room for stupidity in the Government's handling of Civil Service pay, and a great deal of it is directly traceable to the Prime Minister's almost instinctive dislike of it. As many civil servants will testify, she does not like its poor manners, and still less its snooty attitude towards her brand of right-wing radicalism.

Indeed, this attitude is widely accepted in Whitehall to have been responsible for the loss of large sums of taxpayers' money at the time of the last big Civil Service pay dispute in 1981. It is worth recalling what occurred, since it proves that the Prime Minister could not walk on water even in those comparatively early days.

The affair began with a major outbreak of works-to-rule and old-fashioned go-slows. Then the Civil Service unions stepped up the pressure, calling full-scale strikes in selected departments.

Lord Soames, then Minister for the Civil Service as well as leader of the Lords, redoubled his efforts to find a settlement, and eventually

## COMMENTARY

### Ian Aitken



came up with one which bought off some of the cash demands of the unions with the promise of an independent enquiry.

It was regarded by many — not least by Lord Soames and some of his Cabinet colleagues — as a considerable success in a sticky situation. But when Soames brought it triumphantly to Downing Street for endorsement, Mrs Thatcher indignantly repudiated it.

So the dispute dragged on, the strikes continued, the collection of taxes was affected, and the Treasury eventually had to borrow large sums to keep the Government afloat. Some time later Mrs Thatcher was forced to change her mind, and the Government settled for much the same terms as Lord Soames had originally obtained.

It was not exactly a famous victory for prime minister, and the Government's tactical intervention, and Mrs Thatcher was much mocked

at the time. Lord Soames eventually paid the price of knowing better than his boss weeks later.

But although this is instructive, it is a digression. Apart from hiccoughs like the 1981 dispute and the crash insensitivity of last week's pay award, the pay policy is in place. Moreover, in broad Thatcherite terms, it is working.

The evidence for this was put with considerable clarity in the Guardian last week by Mr Derek Robinson, the distinguished Oxford statistician

and economist. He compared the gains and losses to real disposable income since 1980-81 among non-manual workers in private employment, against the experience of a wide range of public-service employees.

The latter included civil servants, health workers, train drivers, school and university teachers, police and firemen. The results of the study were remarkable. The private sector workers had gained substantially — 11 per cent for men, 15 per cent for women. But in all but three specific categories the public servants had lost, and their losses ranged from 1 per cent up to almost 10 per cent.

Of the three exceptions, one comes as a surprise: according to Mr Robinson, a Grade 1 further education lecturer is 1.7 per cent better off. The other two are policemen and firemen — the former by 9.9 per cent, the latter by 10.8 per cent. Significantly, both categories had their pay determined on the basis of comparability with earnings in private employment — a system now abolished for the Civil Service.

Mr Robinson concluded that there was now an urgent need for some general system for determining pay in the public sector, which would be recognised as fair by everyone, including the public and the government.

And to a certain extent we can see that ministers had "one law for the rich and already have the trouble. For the time being, it is confined to the classroom, as the teachers risk public approbrium by disrupting the schools. Before long it can be expected to spread to other local authority employees as the latest round of town hall spending cuts begins to bite.

But the true measure of the foolishness of the Government in its handling of the top people's pay award is that the teachers' dispute, like the other disputes which will surely follow, will now appear to the public as not merely understandable but even reasonable. And the more loudly ministers proclaim that it is all a just over the nothing, and source it to disreputable motives like envy, the more the public will conclude that this is a Government of "them" rather than "us".

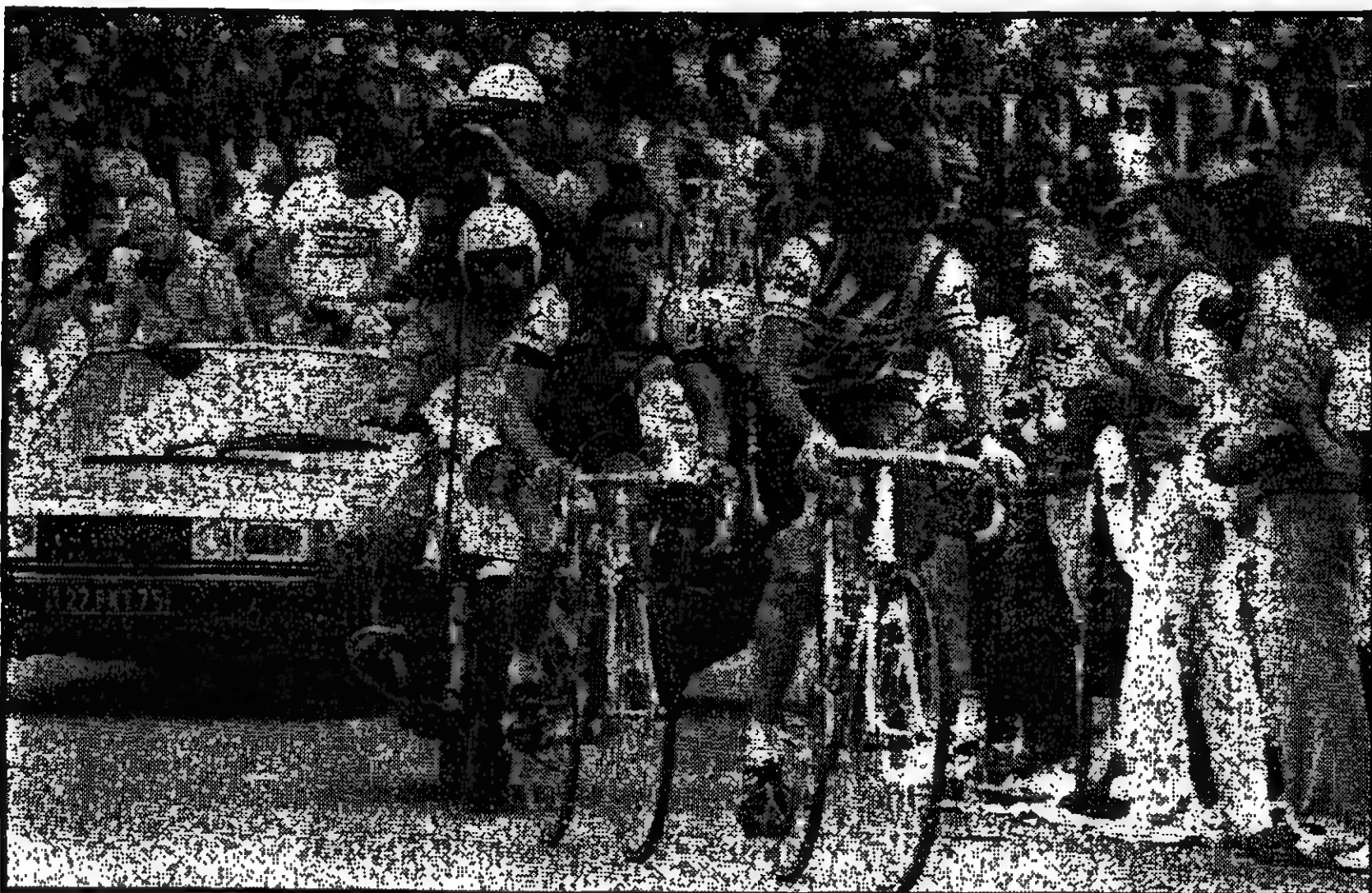
Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, remarked rather obviously at the weekend that it all demonstrated "the need for the poor". But what is even more offensive to those who do not have entries in Who's Who is that this is a Government which clearly favours the few at the expense of the many.

For the underlying reality about the top people's pay award is that, by definition, there are those who are better off than the rest of the population. On that basis, top people can safely be treated like Turkish khalifs without risking an upset to the delicate balance of the economy.

It is this approach which accounts for that extraordinary view, long common in the Conservative Party, that the right way to make top people better is to pay them more, whereas the right way to make everyone else try harder is to pay them less.

Objectively it may be true, at least to the extent that this week's pay award will not have the slightest direct effect on the rate of inflation, or even on the level of the PSBR. But I predict that, in the long run, it will have a profound effect on both.

For it is undeniable that it will be seen to be unfair, and it will make John Birt angry.



Neck and neck on the Strasbourg to Epinal stage (above) then clockwise—pre-race preparation; and Sean Kelly at rest. Pictures by Garry Weiser

CHARLES BURGESS on a glory of France

## Breton beacon

THE longest one-way road in the world came to an end yesterday on the Champs Elysees, Paris. After 4,000 kilometres of racing on the wide avenues and small country roads of France, 145 riders out of the 180 who started the Tour de France over three weeks ago had reached their goal.

The largest single annual sporting event is over for another year and the country returns to some sort of normality. It had dominated conversation, not only in France, but in the cycle-mad countries like Belgium, Holland and Colombia where live five-hour radio coverage has been starting at 5 am.

The Tour is not just the toughest race there is, and far more important in cycling terms than the world championships. It is a French institution. Nowhere else do they accept the closing of roads for four hours, and it is only the government and the Tour who can close the Champs Elysees.

The riders may be the centre of attention, and none more so than the 30-year-old Breton, Bernard Hinault, who has just won his fifth Tour, equalling the record. But they are only a small part of a caravan that has been on the move since June 29. A total of 1,800 people in 1,000 vehicles, including 600 journalists, have gone with them and an average of 2.5 policemen per kilometre have made sure the roads have been clear, with 500 at every finish and 3,000 yesterday.

It is a mammoth feat of logistics and organisation. The Tour is run by a private organisation with a full-time staff of 32. No figures are said to be huge. What is known is that the organisation costs £25 million to run, but they have no difficulty



in finding towns willing to stump up the cash to host a stage (minimum £50,000) and no shortage of companies willing to pay for the privilege of sponsoring anything from providing the free coffee at the beginning of the prizes, or the results service. Even the 18 teams who entered 10 men each had to pay £15,000 to take part.

Nobody loses. They estimate that 30 million people watch the event from the side of the road, and that includes a satellite jam of advertising vehicles that precede the race by an hour. Another 60 million watch the daily television coverage, including Channel 4 for the first time this year, while the American network, CBS, have been screening an hour a week.

To accusations that the Tour has turned into a commercial nightmare, the assistant director, Richard Marillier, has the simple answer: "The Tour is a free show open to all, someone has to pay and those sponsors expect something in return."

But somewhere back there, away from the booming Tannoy and trashy souvenirs, lies a riveting sports event that has everything — courage, drama, intrigue, joy, and despair — and all played out in front of the moving backdrop of French scenery, from the flat plains in the North, through the Alps, across the medieval cities of the Massif Central, into the Pyrenees, and then to the capital.

For most of its 85-year history, the tour has been a strictly Continental affair, won by Frenchmen, Belgians, Italians, and the occasional

Dutchman or Spaniard. But in the past few years some of the top names have been English speakers — from the United States, Ireland, Australia. This year has also seen the rise of the Colombians — great mountain climbers, as you would expect. Places two to five were this year taken by Anglophones, as they are called, and it cannot be too long before one of them is the winner.

It is usually the great all-rounders who fill the top places, men who may not win mountain stages, may not win too many flat stages, but who excel on their own in the individual time trials — the races of truth. So men who mean nothing overall may win a stage, but as long as the main contenders keep in touch with each other they do not worry. Team helpers are all impor-



tant and it is no accident that Bernard Hinault's team were the best this year. Hinault now takes home a fifth yellow jersey of race winner. This piece of clothing holds such importance that it is hard to think that it started out in life as an advertising gimmick for the race's original sponsors, the sports paper L'Auto, which was printed on yellow paper. Meanwhile, there are thousands of villages in France who now remember the day they put out the bunting and went out into the streets to watch Bernard and the pack whizz through, sometimes in a moment.

The biggest race of all is taken to the people, and the banner hung over the street somewhere in the foothills of the Alps which read: "Welcome and Thank You" was no hyperbole.

With a state of emergency declared in South Africa, the views of the African National Congress become increasingly important. Joe Slovo, the ANC's chief military planner, talks to JONATHAN STEELE

## The monolith cracks

AS STREET violence and political unrest spreads through the townships and cities of South Africa, the African National Congress — which launched armed struggle against apartheid in the early 1960s — now believes there is a chance that the whole edifice of white minority rule could collapse as suddenly as the Shah's regime in Iran. Little more than a year ago the Nkomati accord between South Africa and Mozambique had denied the armed fighters of the ANC their best access to South Africa, via Mozambique. The mood of the ANC leadership in the wake of that setback was gloomy. Today they have never been so optimistic.

The ANC's leading cadres, some 250 people, met in Zambia last month for the first consultative conference since 1983. In one of its most significant decisions, the ANC opened its top ranks to everyone in South Africa, and elected one white, two Indians, and two people of mixed race (Coloureds) to the national executive committee of 30.

Joe Slovo, a key member of the ANC's military wing, Umkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), and the white member of the executive committee, says that "no romantic illusions must be held about the speed with which apartheid can be destroyed."

But never, he says, have so many people started "to take their own initiatives" not all directed from some national or regional underground — but subjectively inspired by the situation. People are showing their teeth.

Slovo believes that two critical psychological barriers have been breached on both sides. "The century-old African feeling of impotence has faded, and there is the beginning of a feeling — I put it no higher than that — of white monoliths can be cracked. On the white side there is less certainty than before that the system is unassailable."

The current proliferation of protest all over South Africa began with the campaign last August to boycott the regime's elections for Coloureds and Indians in a new three-chamber Parliament. Slovo believes that a key factor was the increase in ANC armed actions between March and August last year.

After the Nkomati accord many people thought the ANC's effectiveness would dwindle. But the upsurge in armed activity, acknowledged by the regime's own statistics, has had the opposite effect, "a big inspirational effect" both on the ANC cadres and on people in South Africa.

Slovo points out that although there have been periods of rioting before, and other moments when the regime has been in crisis, there is now, for the first time, a convergence of three essential, pre-revolutionary factors: a crisis in the enemy's ranks, a clear demonstration that people are ready to struggle and sacrifice even at the risk of death, and widespread acceptance that there is an alternative source of power to the ANC.

Most black townships have shown force in armed vehicles, no black policeman can survive normally. Local administration in the urban ghettos is collapsing, and there is what in Latin America would be called a state of siege.

Slovo believes that the white regime has lost the initiative and no longer has a coherent strategy. It veers wildly from reform to repression. "They realise that their life support system, the Bantustans, has gone. Everything was become ungovernable, he

says, and are no-go areas for the white authorities. They are known locally as "free zones." While the regime can still enter with a massive presence on the theory that South Africa was a country of minorities, with no single majority. But no-one internationally has accepted the Bantustans. The people who live there don't accept them. Both the tricameral assembly has also failed to gain acceptance, and at the beginning of this year he started to talk about offers to urban blacks. One felt he was beginning to enter Afrikaner

sanctuary attacks — "armed propaganda" — have been very successful but the ANC now has to extend the range of its military actions and to concentrate even more on underground political organisation. He denies recent press reports that the ANC has prepared a hit list of top white politicians for assassination. Actions like the IRA's Brighton bombing are not part of its strategy. "We don't believe we will solve the problem just by getting rid of Botha, and having another Botha to take his place. There are plenty of them."

But the line between civilisation and military targets "is becoming thinner and thinner. Many levels of the white state have been militarised. For example, nowadays every farm is a centre of communication linked to the military, and all farmers are part of the paramilitary apparatus of the State-Commandos."

In May, the ANC issued a call to black policemen to refuse to shoot other blacks, and "to organise secretly to turn their guns on their masters." Many were also called to steal weapons from within the system, to reduce the ANC's previous dependence on weapons brought in from outside. The ANC is now forming small, mobile units in the townships.

There is one area in South Africa, where both the blacks live, which the ANC has tended to ignore until recently: the Bantustans. Their nominal "independence" makes it potentially harder for Pretoria to intervene there, if radical trends were to develop. Last month the ANC conference decided to increase its activities in the Bantustans.

The conference also discussed the relationship between the ANC's initial concept of prolonged people's war and the approaching possibility of insurrection. It decided it must prepare for both.

Slovo believes that the Freedom Charter around which the UDF and many other South Africans have now rallied is as valid today as it was in 1955, even though it is not a socialist blueprint. "We're not Pot Pot," he says. "We're not in favour of abolishing the middle class. Black traders will be better off than under the present regime with its apartheid restrictions."

He describes the recent moves in the United States towards imposing sanctions on apartheid as "a measure of the strength of our movement. The United States is beginning to fear that everything it supports might be undermined. That is why it has begun to make overtures towards the ANC. On the right terms the ANC is willing to talk to anyone. Dialogue is part of the struggle, although it has its menacing side."

The recent ANC conference also discussed the regime's growing efforts to split black unity, to create tension between the UDF and black-consciousness movements like AZAPO, to send in agents provocateurs and infiltrators, to use forged pamphlets, and to promote a "black on black" development. The emergence of death squads, who have been responsible for killing 11 people and abducting black activists recently.

"But the vital element now," says Slovo, "is the majority. We need to respond to the mood of the people — that we must take the lives of the other side as well. We need to seek compromise, but this is not our policy. Our task is to find ways of harnessing the combat potential, and exploiting the new strength of the people in political action."

Slovo says that the ANC's

July 23 1985



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# MOTERING GUARDIAN

Monday July 22 1985 19



Lancia Thema in the traffic. The Lancia Mobil Economy Run in Turin

## Hell-bent on a few more miles per gallon

HOW times have changed. When I first qualified to drive on four wheels (against the earlier two - progressing to three) the query "What will she do?" meant nothing other than a maximum speed. Naught-to-sixty played some part but acceleration times in top gear from fifty to seventy figured not one whit. And if you claimed more than thirty to a gallon, a certain questioning look would come from the far side of the bar.

A gaggle of fuel crises and doubts about disposable income have wrought severe changes. All for the better. While the exchange rates and fuel companies play fox and goose with us, there is no substitute for basic economy of driving. During the past half year I have had the opportunity to test more than thirty cars in a variety of conditions and with a total mileage, so far, exceeding twenty thousand.

Perhaps the major lesson that I have been able to confirm is that reducing fuel costs is far more to do with the driver than with the motor-car. As a rough and ready guide to what you might expect to achieve day in, day out from a motor-car, it is thought that fifty per cent of the government's urban cycle figure added to one quarter of that gained at a steady 56 mph and at 75 mph is representative.

Not bad, but others suggest that ten per cent off the 75 mph result is more realistic. I can play similar games with the official figures for my 1766cc carburetted BMW. The truth is that last November I changed home to live 16 miles from the Guardian's London office against the previous 18. And, as a result, my fuel consumption has worsened by about five miles per gallon.

At first I thought there was something seriously wrong with the car. Maybe my driving "technique". Then I recalled that on the rejected route I drove less than one mile to A2 and then moved into overdrive fifth for six miles on a dual carriageway. These days, I scarcely ever find fifth, sometimes fourth, and seem to spend far too long with the engine turning over, the gears in neutral, and the lights at red.

A few longish drives to Norfolk and South Wales brought back the 37 mpg that I had come to expect from the car and so I felt reassured that my driving was not to blame. Brimming a fuel tank with diesel is a painstaking business but, with care, it can give a reasonable indication of consumption. I took a Charade from Belgavia to Goodwood (place dropper) starting in the morning rush hour, with no time limit, and really trying I managed to be fourth in the group with just 74 mpg; others achieved an apparent 80 more miles per gallon. It really is a nonsense.

It was, therefore, particularly brave of Lancia to have been with the cooperation of Mobil, Italy - to stage a down-to-earth economy run. In the past, the events have been enjoyably held in some of the more scenic regions of Italy; the recent event was nothing more than a short

blast along Turin's ring road and a tour of the city's industrial heritage. In other words, an entirely normal day-to-day trip which might be encountered by many an owner of Lancia's V10 hatchback. With 50 sets of traffic lights thrown in and no one standing by to push a button and give the entrants an artificial advantage.

Observers, we were told, would be seated throughout the route and all traffic rules had to be obeyed, otherwise disqualification would follow. No coasting, although switching off the engine for a few moments while stationary at traffic lights or road works was permitted; the fuel saving, though slight, could prove important when the results were collated. And, as an added enforcement, the main fuel tank was disconnected and a separate system carefully weighed and installed. A tachograph was another watch-dog and bonnet and boot officially sealed.

I scraped in with a most unspectacular result: with 62.89 miles per gallon and an average speed of 23.24 miles per hour I was ahead of the average, which is some consolation though it had been hard work. The best result came from Nikolaus Reichert from Germany with an astonishing 73.38 mpg. But I consoled myself with the thought that at least I went quicker... and the V10 had stood up to Lancia's claims as an ideal town car - particularly adapted to face the busloads of urban traffic.

## Barcelona or bust at 44 mpg

NOTHING quite reveals the true nature of a motor-car as much as a long journey under some time pressure. A drive to Barcelona for the motor show seemed an ideal test and for this year's event I took the Peugeot 505 GTD turbocharged saloon and was in no way disappointed. One of the errors car manufacturers continue to make is their belief that motorists who want economy seek to save money in other directions as well, hence the somewhat spartan specification of so many diesel cars. With the GTD, Peugeot offer central locking, electronically powered sunroof, alloy wheels, and high quality four-train - a finely equipped car priced at £21,000.

But the practice of my journey made perfect. The 15-gallon tank was full when I left north-west Kent for Portsmouth to catch the comfortable and practical Brittany Ferries crossing to St. Malo. It takes a little longer overnight than some other routes, but gives better opportunity for a good night's sleep.

Midway between Bordeaux and Toulouse we made the overnight stop and in the morning drove until the fuel warning light flickered. I reckoned that the five gallons we took on (at a cost of under £9) would see the Peugeot into Spain where diesel fuel is even cheaper, but had not kept in mind that driving at the maximum legal speed on the autoroute does not keep hand in hand with economy and so parted with fifty francs for eleven litres to cross the border. The tank was filled at 867 miles to show an average thirst of just 44 mpg.

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Mini 5100	£9,295
Mini 5300	£9,595
Mini 5500	£9,895
Mini 5700	£10,195
Mini 5900	£10,495
Mini 6100	£10,795
Mini 6300	£11,095
Mini 6500	£11,395
Mini 6700	£11,695
Mini 6900	£11,995
Mini 7100	£12,295
Mini 7300	£12,595
Mini 7500	£12,895
Mini 7700	£13,195
Mini 7900	£13,495
Mini 8100	£13,795
Mini 8300	£14,095
Mini 8500	£14,395
Mini 8700	£14,695
Mini 8900	£14,995
Mini 9100	£15,295
Mini 9300	£15,595
Mini 9500	£15,895
Mini 9700	£16,195
Mini 9900	£16,495
Mini 10100	£16,795
Mini 10300	£17,095
Mini 10500	£17,395
Mini 10700	£17,695
Mini 10900	£17,995
Mini 11100	£18,295
Mini 11300	£18,595
Mini 11500	£18,895
Mini 11700	£19,195
Mini 11900	£19,495
Mini 12100	£19,795
Mini 12300	£20,095
Mini 12500	£20,395
Mini 12700	£20,695
Mini 12900	£20,995
Mini 13100	£21,295
Mini 13300	£21,595
Mini 13500	£21,895
Mini 13700	£22,195
Mini 13900	£22,495
Mini 14100	£22,795
Mini 14300	£23,095
Mini 14500	£23,395
Mini 14700	£23,695
Mini 14900	£23,995
Mini 15100	£24,295
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Mini 15900	£25,495
Mini 16100	£25,795
Mini 16300	£26,095
Mini 16500	£26,395
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Mini 17100	£27,295
Mini 17300	£27,595
Mini 17500	£27,895
Mini 17700	£28,195
Mini 17900	£28,495
Mini 18100	£28,795
Mini 18300	£29,095
Mini 18500	£29,395
Mini 18700	£29,695
Mini 18900	£29,995
Mini 19100	£30,295
Mini 19300	£30,595
Mini 19500	£30,895
Mini 19700	£31,195
Mini 19900	£31,495
Mini 20100	£31,795
Mini 20300	£32,095
Mini 20500	£32,395
Mini 20700	£32,695
Mini 20900	£32,995
Mini 21100	£33,295
Mini 21300	£33,595
Mini 21500	£33,895
Mini 21700	£34,195
Mini 21900	£34,495
Mini 22100	£34,795
Mini 22300	£35,095
Mini 22500	£35,395
Mini 22700	£35,695
Mini 22900	£35,995
Mini 23100	£36,295
Mini 23300	£36,595
Mini 23500	£36,895
Mini 23700	£37,195
Mini 23900	£37,495
Mini 24100	£37,795
Mini 24300	£38,095
Mini 24500	£38,395
Mini 24700	£38,695
Mini 24900	£38,995
Mini 25100	£39,295
Mini 25300	£39,595
Mini 25500	£39,895
Mini 25700	£40,195
Mini 25900	£40,495
Mini 26100	£40,795
Mini 26300	£41,095
Mini 26500	£41,395
Mini 26700	£41,695
Mini 26900	£41,995
Mini 27100	£42,295
Mini 27300	£42,595
Mini 27500	£42,895
Mini 27700	£43,195
Mini 27900	£43,495
Mini 28100	£43,795
Mini 28300	£44,095
Mini 28500	£44,395
Mini 28700	£44,695
Mini 28900	£44,995
Mini 29100	£45,295
Mini 29300	£45,595
Mini 29500	£45,895
Mini 29700	£46,195
Mini 29900	£46,495
Mini 30100	£46,795
Mini 30300	£47,095
Mini 30500	£47,395
Mini 30700	£47,695
Mini 30900	£47,995
Mini 31100	£48,295
Mini 31300	£48,595
Mini 31500	£48,895
Mini 31700	£49,195
Mini 31900	£49,495
Mini 32100	£49,795
Mini 32300	£50,095
Mini 32500	£50,395
Mini 32700	£50,695
Mini 32900	£50,995
Mini 33100	£51,295
Mini 33300	£51,595
Mini 33500	£51,895
Mini 33700	£52,195
Mini 33900	£52,495
Mini 34100	£52,795
Mini 34300	£53,095
Mini 34500	£53,395
Mini 34700	£53,695
Mini 34900	£53,995
Mini 35100	£54,295
Mini 35300	£54,595
Mini 35500	£54,895
Mini 35700	£55,195
Mini 35900	£55,495
Mini 36100	£55,795
Mini 36300	£56,095
Mini 36500	£56,395
Mini 36700	£56,695
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Mini 37100	£57,295
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Mini 37700	£58,195
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Mini 38100	£58,795
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Mini 38500	£59,395
Mini 38700	£59,695
Mini 38900	£59,995
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Mini 39900	£61,495
Mini 40100	£61,795
Mini 40300	£62,095
Mini 40500	£62,395
Mini 40700	£62,695
Mini 40900	£62,995
Mini 41100	£63,295
Mini 41300	£63,595
Mini 41500	£63,895
Mini 41700	£64,195
Mini 41900	£64,495
Mini 42100	£64,795
Mini 42300	£65,095
Mini 42500	£65,395
Mini 42700	£65,695
Mini 42900	£65,995
Mini 43100	£66,295
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Mini 43500	£66,895
Mini 43700	£67,195
Mini 43900	£67,495
Mini 44100	£67,795
Mini 44300	£68,095
Mini 44500	£68,395
Mini 44700	£68,695
Mini 44900	£68,995
Mini 45100	£69,295
Mini 45300	£69,595
Mini 45500	£69,895
Mini 45700	£70,195
Mini 45900	£70,495
Mini 46100	£70,795
Mini 46300	£71,095
Mini 46500	£71,395
Mini 46700	£71,695
Mini 46900	£71,995
Mini 47100	£72,295
Mini 47300	£72,595
Mini 47500	£72,895
Mini 47700	£73,195



# Unequals under the roof—and the simple solution that would never find a home



## ECONOMICS NOTEBOOK

Victor Keegan

PEOPLE often say of journalists that they pontificate to the world but couldn't run a wheelbarrow. So it is perhaps worth saying (only because it is relevant to this article)

that in my own dealings I have been very successful by commercial standards. Indeed, if only British industry had done as well these past few years we would not be worrying about industrial deterioration.

Since 1978 I have made a yearly return on my original investment of over 50 to 100 per cent in real terms (after allowing for inflation). And all this without any risk and without doing any work at all. You want to know the secret?

Yes, I am an owner occupier. I have the biggest grumpy train of them all. The extent of it will be exposed later this week when the long-awaited and highly critical inquiry chaired by the Duke of Edinburgh reports. You will have noted similar gains if you have bought a house in recent years.

It works like this: say your house cost you £40,000. And you put down a deposit of £4,000. Let's assume house prices go up by 10 per cent in the

first year (actually, they rose by over 30 per cent in each of the years 1978 and 1979). So you have made a profit of 10 per cent or £4,000. Not bad at all for sitting around doing nothing.

But, of course, you only put down, say, £4,000 of your own money (as deposit), the rest having been borrowed. So your real profit on your own capital was 100 per cent. And all tax-free. Why bother risking money in wealth creation when inertia produces such rich returns? You do, of course, have to pay interest charges. But after allowing for the fact that they are tax deductible the cost will not be far off what you would have been paying in rent if you were not an owner occupier.

By contrast, people in rented accommodation who borrow in order to pay the rent get no tax deduction. And council house tenants (since 1979) have suffered very sharp losses in real terms (much more than inflation) to the point where they are

now paying more than "economic" rents. Small wonder that the biggest divisions in society both here and in the US are between those who own their house and those who don't.

To rub salt in the wound, owner occupiers are all too fond of saying that it is all "paper" profit, as if they couldn't sell it for real money. Tell that to a council tenant.

The social divisions do not end there. The explosion of the owner-occupied housing market has accelerated by the otherwise creditable Conservative policy of enabling council house dwellers to buy their own homes) is planting even bigger social divisions for the future as the large capital sums accruing from home ownership are passed on after death. As a result 70 per cent of children will at some stage receive windfall legacies while the remainder have to start life's handiwork race even further behind. How can this be squared with the objective, which

most would share, of equality of opportunity? Social considerations apart, the owner-occupied welfare state also has serious implications for the running of the whole economy. The current epidemic of high interest rates has naturally enough attracted huge sums into building society and bank deposits. The deposits are then lent on by these institutions to housebuyers who do not appear to be deterred by the high interest rates precisely because the interest is tax deductible and the prospective capital gains (tax free) still enormous.

So the tax avoidance merry-go-round goes on spinning interest rates higher than they otherwise would have been. Who are the losers? Obviously, those who don't own homes of their own are badly affected, as are their children. Industry loses in that funds which could have been invested in companies get siphoned off into homes. This is not as bad as it sounds in that

since home ownership is, after all, the ultimate object of most people's savings. Tax deductibility merely short-circuits what might otherwise be a lengthy process.

The third loser—though you don't hear about this very often—is the government itself, which is trapped into paying out ever higher subsidies (in the form of tax relief to mortgage holders) as interest rates rise and home ownership spreads. This reduces the tax take, and thus worsens the government's requirement.

Last year the tax relief on mortgage interest was £34 billion and is likely to be significantly more this year because of higher interest rates and expanding home ownership. One of the ironies is that the order to meet the spiralling mortgage interest bill the government is having to reduce benefits for the poor.

What can be done? In the short term the government could either take the expen-

sive and ideologically unappealing course of handing out subsidies to people renting or progressively eliminate the escalating cost of the mortgage interest relief, the financing of which has been made much more difficult by the government's decision to keep interest rates way above the world average.

The easiest way to reduce the cost of mortgage relief to the Treasury (without triggering a revolution in Sarbiton) would be to freeze the amount eligible for relief to the present £30,000 (progressively erode its real value) and limiting it to the standard rate of tax.

As for the long-term inequity of future generations being divided between those who inherit the family house and those who do not, there is one piece of legislation which both could solve the problem at a stroke and provide future Chancellor of the Exchequer with enormous funds. Alas, it is too simple and long-term

ever to find favour. It would be to convert all freeholds into crownhold property with 50 or 50 years to run. In other words, after 50 years (which will see you and most of your children into retirement) all property would revert to the crown to be sold off by estate agents. Existing owners would be allowed to buy their own property back at a 25 per cent discount if they so chose, thereby encouraging them to save up the necessary deposit.

This would result in a huge and painless redistribution of capital which would provide future Chancellors with a regular source of huge revenues as a percentage of the housing stock reverted to the crown each year. Such a scheme would never happen as it would need all-party support to succeed. No one is much interested in the huge inequity of wealth these days. Except, alas the government which is perversely trying to help it on its way.

## Job losses would be 'politically unacceptable'

# Ravenscraig set to be saved from closure

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

Scotland's threatened steel plant at Ravenscraig, near Motherwell, is likely to be saved from closure when the Cabinet meets to consider the future of the British Steel Corporation.

It is now generally accepted within Whitehall that the shutdown of Ravenscraig, resulting in over 4,000 direct job losses and many more indirect losses, would be politically unacceptable.

Although a number of Cabinet ministers would support the closure, it is thought that a comfortable majority now accept that, politically, Ravenscraig must be saved.

The Cabinet is not due to discuss BSC's corporate plan until after the holiday season, and the likely agreement will keep Ravenscraig open will

again be seen as a triumph for the Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, who led the campaign to save the plant in 1981.

However, the Cabinet will face criticism from hardline Tories and steel industry customers that the decision to keep Ravenscraig open fits in the face of commercial logic.

BSC's chairman, Sir Robert Haslam, has publicly declared that the steel corporation needs only two of its three main steel strip making mills, and Ravenscraig is more vulnerable to closure than the

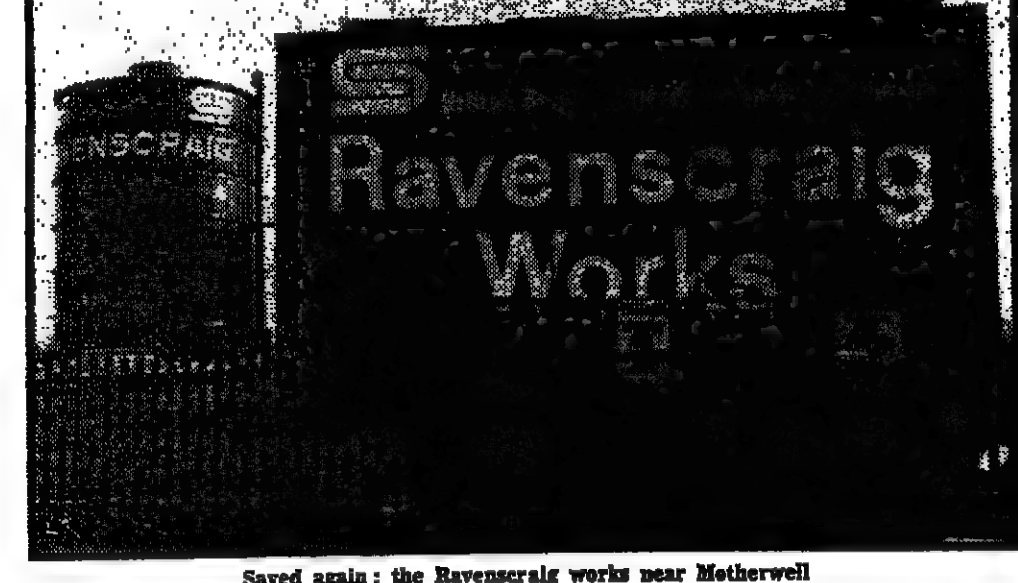
wern and Fort Tabor. BSC says that its three strip mills are operating at only 70 per cent of production capacity, and that maintaining excess capacity is now costing the corporation up to £100 million a year.

Steel customers are angry because this excess capacity is equivalent to 225 a tonne on strip mill products, roughly 10 per cent of average selling price.

Closure of a steel strip mill like Ravenscraig would remove annual capacity of around two million tonnes a year and help steer BSC towards profit and from the government's viewpoint, eventual privatisation.

BSC has just returned to profit in the first three months of the new financial year after suffering huge losses totalling over £400 million, partly as a result of the miners' strike.

However, year on year profits of around £200 million would be needed to make privatisation a realistic step, and the closure of Ravenscraig, eliminating losses of £100 million a year, would bring viability much nearer.



Saved again: the Ravenscraig works near Motherwell

## Sales stay high

By David Simpson

June again proved a boom month for retail sales, although spending was not as high as originally hoped, and July is expected to prove even better. The Confederation of British Industry has reported.

Confirming official figures, the latest CBI/RTI distribution survey indicates that June sales were considerably better than the levels 12 months earlier, though slightly more subdued than in the preceding two months.

A balance of 43 per cent of CBI members reported higher sales than a year earlier, although a balance of 56 per cent forecast increased sales at the time of the previous survey. This month, a balance of 50 per cent of all distributors are expecting higher sales than a year ago.

The July rise in sales is being led by the clothing stores, particularly the multiple retailers and the mail order firms, according to Mr John Salisse, the chairman of the CBI's distributive trades survey panel.

Fine weather has tempted customers out and they have been underpinned by high interest rates, which many will have increased their mortgage payments and reduce the cash they have available for spending, Mr Salisse said.

## Cautious loans to Third World

Western commercial banks are reluctant to lend to some developing countries, but Asian nations are importing their finances, according to figures published by the Bank for International Settlements.

The BIS study of bank lending in the second half of 1984 showed the unused lines of credit available to 15 major industrial countries (all but the US, Japan, West Germany, France, Italy, the UK, Canada, and the Netherlands) to be \$2.1 billion, while total loans to them rose by only \$2.1 billion. — Reuters

## More spending on infrastructure urged

By Andrew Cornelius

The government will today come under renewed pressure from the construction industry to increase spending on roads, railways, sewers, and other basic infrastructure.

The twin assault on ministers begins with publication of a new economic report commissioned by the construction industry which warns that the infrastructure "is now significantly unmet and at risk to give rise to public alarm."

Construction industry leaders joining forces under the Group of Eight banner, which represents both employers and unions, will press home the case for higher spending at a meeting this morning with Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary.

The latest attacks on the government's record of investment in infrastructure follow the recent reports from the Confederation of British Industry which called for an increase of £1 billion in public investment, and the report on the infrastructure by the National Economic Development Office, which pinpointed areas where investment has been neglected.

The economic report, entitled "The British Economic Base 1985," runs to 125 pages and concludes that spending on infrastructure has fallen below the level when the government took power, which in itself was the lowest level of investment seen for 10 years.

The Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, which commissioned the report, has sent copies to ministers in an attempt to influence their thinking in the continuing debate about next year's public spending plans.

The report maintains that the government has failed in its most basic objective which is to cut spending, and where the cuts have been made they have been aimed at important public investment programmes and not at waste. The federation is adamant that additional spending on infrastructure could be raised by seeking waste with no increase in total government spending.

Vital projects which have been neglected include sewer renewal, dealing with coastal defences, road and bridge building, new railways, ports and airports.

Some of the secrecy, Mr Aponte said, amounted to deception. Anger among dealers, collectors, and museums and galleries is at the moment focussed on two aspects of secrecy.

The first is about the reserve price, the minimum below which the object will not be sold but will be withdrawn or "bought in." Bidders are in the dark about how high they will have to go. This is, in the view of many people, hardly open trading.

The second is about the auctioneers' practice of not saying when an object has failed to reach its reserve. The name is investigated, at public hearings, was the ope of secrecy.

The international auction houses face investigation into their practices by the New York Commission of Consumer Affairs. New York is even more important than London as a centre of the art market, and changes, if forced on the auction houses there, would be likely to spread to London and elsewhere.

The prospect is unlikely to please Sotheby's, Christie's and the others. Mr Angelo J. Aponte, the New York Commissioner of Consumer Affairs, said at the weekend that one of the practices that would be investigated, at public hearings, was the ope of secrecy.

The secrecy is a kind of manipulation and a kind of lying, say many dealers on both sides of the Atlantic. And it is for lying that Mr David Bathurst

## Devalued lira a bonus for tourists

By our Business Correspondent

THE ITALIAN lira, which fell dramatically on foreign exchange markets last week, was devalued by an effective 7.5 per cent at the weekend.

On Friday, the Italian government had ordered the country's foreign exchange markets closed and suspended all dealings in the lira, to block further speculation.

An emergency meeting of the European Monetary Committee agreed to the devaluation, the first realignment within the European Monetary System for two years, and it was confirmed by EC economic ministers in a series of telephone calls.

In practice, the lira has been devalued by 6 per cent, while other EMS currencies have been valued upward by 2 per cent. Against sterling, the lira will be 6 per cent lower, making holidays for Britons a cheaper proposition.

The main cause of the lira's sudden plunge was the demand for the strong European currencies, such as the pound and the German mark, as the uncertainty over President Reagan's health and the US economy provoked strong dollar selling last week.

The final straw for the lira, which had found itself by default losing ground to other European currencies, was a large lira selling order by the Italian state oil company, ENI, on Friday.

The lira's devaluation will add yet more ammunition to the calls for a further cut in UK bank base rates, and speculation is growing that base rates will be cut by half a percentage point for the second successive week within the next few days.

The chairman of the EC Monetary Committee, Hans Tietmeyer, said that the changes reflected Italy's external balance of payments situation and its growing deficits.

From John Hooper in Geneva

Opec ministers will begin their latest round of talks here today over a split on whether to restrict oil output.

The Saudi oil minister, Sheikh Yamani, said as he arrived for the conference that he wanted a reduction in the price of his country's heavy crude. Demand for the heavier oil has been depressed ever since the end of the miners' strike in Britain and it has become increasingly difficult to sell at current official prices of \$26.50.

Lowering its price would make the lighter varieties of Opec's output even less saleable and run up against the growing number of member states which want to maintain the cartel's pricing structure.

It is necessary by cutting back even further on production. Combined output in the organisation's 13 member states is already running at

## Sale of Swan Hunter yard near agreement

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

The government is expected to agree the sale of the Swan Hunter shipyard before the end of next month to the only bidder for the Tyneside yard, a management consortium led by its former managing director, Mr Ken Chapman.

The Department of Trade and Industry has signified its determination to sell off its seven warship and composite yards by the planned deadline of March 1986, with the objective of privatising the yards.

It has decided that, instead of an asset-based price, the value attached to any yard should be the market price which can be obtained for it, even if only a single offer is made.

The consortium has already offered sufficient assurances to satisfy the government's criteria. Swan Hunter's unions, in the meantime, while stressing their opposition to the yard's privatisation, have already indicated that they are likely to favour the Chapman consortium's bid over a takeover by any outside group.

On the price, the consortium offer for Swan Hunter is to be accepted, with only final details of which assets are to be included in the package still to be decided.

It seems probable that the three out of the four Swan Hunter yards will be bought by the consortium. It has certainly made an offer for the active

Wallend and Neptune yards on the north bank of the Tyne, and seems likely to want the Hebburn yard, not currently in use, but under maintenance, for its dry dock facility.

The yard which might not be purchased is the Walker yard, which has been inactive since it was used for fitting out the aircraft carrier Ark Royal, which left Swan Hunter a few weeks ago.

The sum to be paid for Swan Hunter is expected to be only a fraction of the net £34 million paid in March by GEC for Yarrow, the largest warship yard to be sold to date, and will reward the yard of the government for privatising state assets at a discount price.

In its last reported financial year, Swan Hunter made a £7.4 million loss, with a trading profit of £3.2 million from the warship building more than outweighed by the deficit from its merchant shipbuilding activities.

With a number of its largest contracts, including the Ark Royal and the Atlantic Conveyor replacement having been completed, the yard had some 3,000 workers on the same period, as replacement orders have not materialised.

At present, the bulk of the yard's workload consists of a Type 22 frigate for the Ministry of Defence, which has also given notice of its intention to place a £110 million order for a Type 23 frigate in the autumn.

## Cammell Laird delivers

By David Simpson

Cammell Laird, threatened with closure a year ago as the yard came to a standstill as a result of a workers' strike, delivered HMS Edinburgh, one of the two new British nuclear submarines, at Barrow-in-Furness, to ensure it can be sold off to the private sector.

Cammell Laird's managing director, Mr Michael Morden, said this weekend: "This commitment to meeting delivery dates is symptomatic of a new change at Cammell Laird, although other shipyards made lower price tenders."

Subsequently, the government decided to merge Cammell Laird with the naval clear submarine building yard, Vickers, at Barrow-in-Furness, to ensure it can be sold off to the private sector.

Cammell Laird's managing director, Mr Michael Morden, said this weekend: "This commitment to meeting delivery dates is symptomatic of a new change at Cammell Laird, although other shipyards made lower price tenders."

Restricting the Iraqi room for manoeuvre. "Any country that calls for an increase in production of oil is stabbing Opec from within the organisation."

A number of states will find their economic interests at odds with their political sympathies over the next few weeks. The Iraqis—who urgently need higher oil revenues—to sustain their war effort—are demanding an increase in their quota, which presently stands at 1.2 million barrels a day.

At Opec's latest informal and inconclusive meeting, two weeks ago they argued that they only accepted a low quota last year because the war prevented them from producing any more.

However, a pipeline will come into service capable of transporting some 500,000 barrels a day of Iraqi crude across Saudi Arabia.

Iran's oil minister, Mr Mohammed Ghazali, arrived here yesterday clearly bent on

restricting the Iraqi room for manoeuvre. "Any country that calls for an increase in production of oil is stabbing Opec from within the organisation."

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## Split within Opec on price cuts

From John Hooper in Geneva

Opec ministers will begin their latest round of talks here today over a split on whether to restrict oil output.

The Saudi oil minister, Sheikh Yamani, said as he arrived for the conference that he wanted a reduction in the price of his country's heavy crude. Demand for the heavier oil has been depressed ever since the end of the miners' strike in Britain and it has become increasingly difficult to sell at current official prices of \$26.50.

Lowering its price would make the lighter varieties of Opec's output even less saleable and run up against the growing number of member states which want to maintain the cartel's pricing structure.

It is necessary by cutting back even further on production. Combined output in the organisation's 13 member states is already running at

well below its ceiling of 16 million barrels a day. The United Arab Emirates, Indonesia, Kuwait, Venezuela and Iran are all opposed to any further increase in output.

It is also clear that the conference will see the Gulf war brought to the negotiating table. The Iraqis—who urgently need higher oil revenues—to sustain their war effort—are demanding an increase in their quota, which presently stands at 1.2 million barrels a day.

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## Currency moves make a mark

COMMODITIES

Robin Stainer

CURRENCY has returned with a vengeance as an influence on London's commodity markets. As the pound rose to a 15-month high against the dollar last week, many sterling-denominated markets dropped to their lowest levels for months, while those quoted in dollars like precious metals and sugar—gained ground.

Up to end of February, when sterling reached its record low against the dollar, the trend for London commodity prices had been strongly upward, with record prices for oil and nickel and the best levels for years for copper, aluminium and cocoa. Sterling prices had to be constantly adjusted upward to keep them in line with dollar prices, which had been moving generally downward—a sign that the fundamental position of most commodities (not only base metals and the big plantation crops, but also cotton, other fibres, grains and oilseeds) was predominantly bearish.

The fundamentals have in the past month or so, as industrial output of raw materials undergirds its normal summer decline. London prices are therefore a spectacular one. If it had not been for the strengthening of the dollar, the price of most commodities would have been lower than two years ago.

Prices of many commodities are hundreds of pounds below their highs of earlier this year and in the case of the most important, gold, which in February dropped below \$300 an ounce to a five-year low, has staged a recovery, although not to spectacular one. It has reflected the full extent of the dollar's fall from its record high of \$340 at its peak last week instead of the price of just over \$225 actually reached.

The prospect of lower US interest rates has undoubtedly prompted a switch of investment away from the dollar and into other currencies, which has helped the improvement in prices. But the improvement in prices has been restrained by producer selling and the fall in oil prices, which resulted in inflationary pressures in the world economy and therefore the need to hedge against them by the traditional means of buying precious metals. Silver's attraction, meanwhile, has been further diminished by the huge volume of surplus world stocks and sluggish industrial output. (Silver is much more sensitive to the level of demand from industrial users than gold.)

Among base metals, the fundamentally strongest is because there is little doubt that there will be a deficit this year, probably reducing surplus stocks to their lowest since the early 1970s — is copper. The

dollar price has picked up over the past month or so, but only marginally. Most analysts, however, are still predicting sharply higher prices for the metal before the end of this year.

Outlook for other base metals is less sanguine. Although both aluminium and zinc prices should eventually benefit from the latest round of production cuts aimed at bringing supply and demand closer into balance. Figures for the first five months of this year show that Western zinc consumption dropped by 3.4 per cent on the same 1984 period, while production, which was up 1.2 per cent, rose by about the same amount, resulting in a build-up in stocks, which are reported to have risen even further, at least in Europe last month.

Although aluminium stocks have at last begun to fall — the result of the production cutbacks over the past 12 months — the decline has been relatively insignificant. The stockpiles have also been declining, but remain at very high levels historically. If it were not for international restraints on exports, prices would undoubtedly be considerably lower.

Mineral output of lead so far this year has increased while consumption has fallen slightly compared with the first half of 1984. The resultant increase in stocks has been especially noticeable in the US, creating fears that some of the metal will be shipped to Europe. These fears helped to bring the London price down to £220 a tonne at its low last week. Chances of a strong recovery are generally remote, unless labour disputes seriously disrupt production — probably the most important factor behind the market's strength late last year.

Prices of most agricultural commodities, meanwhile, have been doing much worse than those of metals. Tea, cocoa, coffee, sugar, cotton, rubber and most grains and oilseeds are in surplus and new-season production prospects are generally good.

Stocks of sugar—the price of which in real terms is probably at its lowest level ever—are expected to reach a new record high by the end of this season. A big increase in cocoa stocks is also likely if private forecasts of a production surplus for 1984-5 prove accurate.

Receding fears of frosts in the Brazilian coffee-growing region have helped to put the price of the coffee market. Supplies are plentiful, as crops this season have been bigger than in the US, creating fears that some of the metal will be shipped to Europe. These fears helped to bring the London price down to £220 a tonne at its low last week. Chances of a strong recovery are generally remote, unless labour disputes seriously disrupt production — probably the most important factor behind the market's strength late last year.

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Prices of most agricultural commodities, meanwhile, have been doing



# Soon the Government will offer for sale its remaining 49% share in Britoil.

Britoil is one of the country's leading oil and gas companies.

And it's one of the world's largest companies engaged primarily in exploration and production.

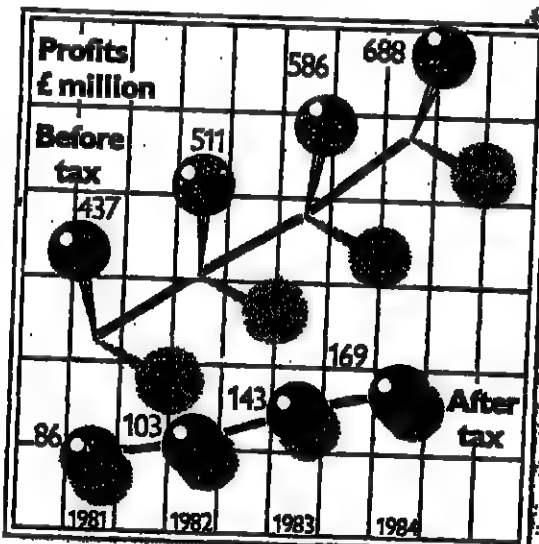
It has the greatest share of exploration acreage of any company on the UK Continental Shelf.

In November 1982, Britoil became a publicly quoted company when the Government sold 51% of its shares to the public.

Since then, Britoil's growth and achievements have been impressive.

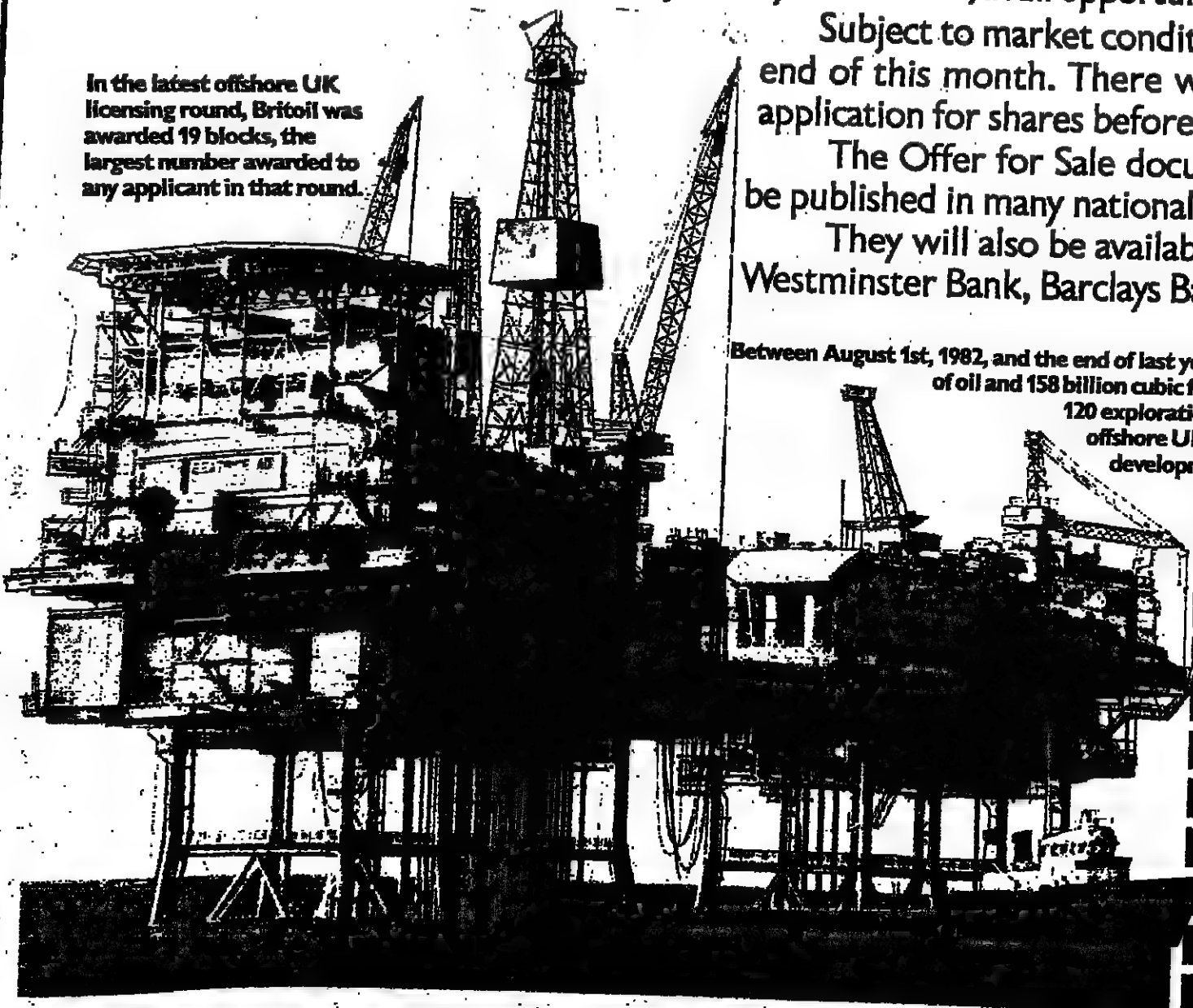
Now the Government has decided to offer its remaining shares for sale. And, as in the past, it intends to give private individuals, not just City institutions, a full opportunity to apply for shares.

Since 1981, after-tax profits have virtually doubled. The figures for 1981 and the first seven months of 1982 reflect those of the business transferred from BNOC to Britoil on 1st August 1982.



Britoil has built up a first class team of exploration, project development and field operating staff led by experienced management.

In the latest offshore UK licensing round, Britoil was awarded 19 blocks, the largest number awarded to any applicant in that round.



Subject to market conditions, the offer is planned for the end of this month. There will be just seven days to make an application for shares before the offer closes early in August.

The Offer for Sale document and application forms will be published in many national newspapers.

They will also be available from all branches of National Westminster Bank, Barclays Bank and the Bank of Scotland.

Between August 1st, 1982, and the end of last year alone, Britoil produced 141 million barrels of oil and 158 billion cubic feet of gas. It also participated in drilling some 120 exploration and appraisal wells and in bringing four offshore UK fields into production and a further five into development.



Please send me more information about Britoil and reserve my copy of the Offer For Sale document, without obligation.

Name

Address

Postcode

Send to: Britoil plc,  
P.O. Box 5000, Bristol, BS99 1GB.

**Britoil**

(S22/7)

SOON, THE REMAINING 49% OF BRITOIL SHARES ARE TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE.

Issued by Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited on behalf of H.M. Government.







NEWS IN BRIEF

**Sudanese plan visit to Cairo**

DAN'S leader, General Nureyev, is expected to visit Cairo tomorrow for talks with Egyptian President Mubarak. The visit is part of a military mission to discuss the Sudanese coup in Khartoum and the role of the Sudanese army in the Sudanese civil war. The Sudanese army is reported to be in a state of confusion and the Sudanese government is expected to be overthrown in the near future.

**Peace in peace**

ANISH air traffic is to be normal after controllers decided to strike on Saturday. The strike was called for by the union of air traffic controllers and was expected to cause major disruption to air travel.

**itch hunt**

o Zimbabwean village, which has been hit by a drought, is being visited by a team of experts to assess the damage. The village is reported to be in a state of famine and the experts are expected to provide assistance.

**ilthy verdict**

IAMI court has found a man guilty of a crime. The man is reported to be a member of a criminal gang and is expected to be sentenced to a long term of imprisonment.

**at loves**

UTHEAST Asia is that can be a source of trouble. The region is reported to be a source of instability and is expected to cause major disruption to the world economy.

**op deaths**

N explosion has killed a number of people. The explosion is reported to have occurred in a crowded area and is expected to cause major disruption to the local community.

**ater deal**

CE signed a deal with a company. The deal is reported to be a major one and is expected to cause major disruption to the local community.

**y hopeless**

Y hopeless is a state of mind. It is a state of mind in which a person is unable to see the future and is expected to cause major disruption to the local community.

**els killed**

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# SPORTS GUARDIAN



DRAWN BY THE DOLLAR: Mary Slaney (left) and Zola Budd shake hands before Saturday's race. Picture by Frank Barron

## Unacceptable face of a boom sport

ATHLETICS COMMENTARY

John Rodda

THE SOAP opera of British athletics will be pushing Dallas and Dynasty out of the ratings unless some cool heads among the elders of the sport come forward to bring dignity and rationality back to the arena. The new wave of commercialism has taken over the sport and the result is a series of events that are more like a soap opera than a sporting event. The British Amateur Athletic Board, the controlling body of the sport in Britain, has been accused of being more interested in the commercial side of the sport than in the athletes themselves. The result is a series of events that are more like a soap opera than a sporting event.

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## Wolverhampton

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## Paulson may stop the European takeover

### DACING

The importance of European buyers to the two-day Keeneland Select Sales which open here today can be simply illustrated by the top eight lots which were sold over 6,000 dollars a head on the previous year, while 53 of the 229 lots on Friday failed to reach their reserve, an unusually high proportion.

Even while this sale was in progress the majority of the big buyers and their agents were the other side of town, closely examining the 306 lots (roughly a third of which are by Northern Danes, his sons or grandsons due to come up at the select sale today and tomorrow).

Among those early on the scene was Lester Piggott, preparing for his new role as a trainer. He had time to get off the plane when accompanied by his wife, Susan and her partner Cormack McCormack. He was busy going round the barns.

The Susan Piggott bloodstock agency has been most successful in purchasing numerous bargains these past few years, with perhaps Moorehead's champion European sprinter and horse of the year her outstanding success.

Susan is going to be a great help to Lester for she has proved herself a very good expert of a horse, as one would expect from an Armstrong.

I found Barry Hills examining lot 20, one of the most interesting in the sale. Hills told me that Brent Thomson, who has been riding so well this season, will be his first jockey next season. This disposes of the rumour that Thomson would be Michael Dickinson's first jockey when he sets up as Robert Sangster's private trainer at Manton this autumn.

Sangster says that Dickinson's horses will all be two-year-olds, most of them backward, and it is unlikely to come away empty handed. He was already in form at the two-day Fasig-Tipton sale when buying seven lots against only five by the Maktoums—and he included the two fillies which topped the sale, a daughter of the Irish what rugger is to the Welsh or the New Zealanders. And this holds true in city and town, in village and townland.

It's hard to imagine that pattern changing and promotion gimmicks are unlikely to make much difference in the long run. Meanwhile, Ireland's ever growing youthful population is even less drawn by the allure of the track than is the older generation.

The notice that every Irishman is a horse lover and a born bloodstock expert is a myth and I doubt if anything will alter that reality.

## Windsor

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Maurice Hamilton on the British Grand Prix at Silverstone

# Senna's gloom as Prost fuels hopes



**BRITISH GRAND PRIX**

THE BRITISH Grand Prix at Silverstone yesterday marked the halfway point in the season and was significant for several reasons. It was the first time since 1973 that a Frenchman has won the race. Alain Prost, driving a Williams FW18B, took pole position and won the race by a comfortable margin. He was followed by Nelson Piquet in second place and Nigel Mansell in third. Senna, who was running in the lead for much of the race, finished fourth. The race was a tactical battle between Prost and Piquet, with Prost ultimately prevailing. Senna's performance was disappointing, and he expressed his frustration after the race. The Williams team was praised for their excellent strategy and execution.

over the thirst of his Renault engine was concerned as he coasted across the finishing line and, had the race run the full length, he would have lost his fifth place to the Brabham of Marc Surer, who was classified sixth, 12 seconds ahead of the Tyrrell-Renault driven by Martin Brundle.

Brundle was unable to start his Tyrrell in time for the final parade lap and he took the start from the back of the grid, which, on reflection, may have been an advantage since he managed to avoid a multiple accident at the first corner.

Patrick Tambay slewed sideways in his Renault, and was hit by the Ferrari of Stefan Johansson, the incident also eliminating the Oella of Piercarlo Ghinzani and Philippe Alliot's RAM.

Unaffected by all that, Senna had made a superb start from the second row of the grid to beat Piquet and the Williams-BMW of the pole-position man, Keke Rosberg, into the first corner. Rosberg gave chase for a few laps but soon realised that Senna was uncatchable, and the Tyrrell settled into second place.

It took Prost 15 laps to work his way ahead of Nigel Mansell's Williams (retired in lap 17 with a clutch failure), the Ligier of Andrea de Cesaris (lost with clutch trouble in lap 41) and Rosberg, and it was soon clear that once into second place, the McLaren was catching Senna by a second a lap.

Derek Warwick's concern



BUSBLING UNDER... Prost (right) celebrates his victory with Alboreto, whom he now trails by only two points

## Mike Selvey at Chelmsford Kent just throw it away

IN A table of great cricketing coups, Kent's defeat by Essex at Chelmsford yesterday would rank very high. Chasing a modest Essex total of 133-5, the Kent players were leaders in the last 22 balls by 100 runs, but they lost their wickets and their last six wickets for 12 runs.

Essex total was founded on a typically solid 85 in 90 balls by Gooch, captain once again in place of the injured Fletcher. He will have been a little disappointed not to have received more of the strike — he hit 26 overs — but still hit one monumental straight six and two further sixes, one of which came particularly close to Fletcher's off stump.

Together with Pringle, who made 45, he shared a third-wicket stand of 117 and a late flourish of 35 from the last 22 balls by Lilley and Gladwin elevated Essex to a reasonable if not secure total.

The bowlers had found enough movement for the punting to expect at least a struggle for Kent. Instead, after neck-and-neck progress for the first 15 overs, Kent forged ahead, first with an attacking 45 by Tavare and then a more cautious 25 by Laurie Potter, a former England hopeful still only 22, who had been ousted off for a rare first-team outing.

Pringle, in company with the energetic Baptiste, added 78 in just nine overs, which should have put the game out of Essex's reach. However, the euphoria of Potter's first John Player League 50 induced him to attempt an unwise third run to John Lever, not a sledge to trifle with, and his despairing plummet just failed to beat the throw.

This, as so often happens, turned the game.

In the next six overs, Lever had Baptiste caught at long off, Pringle had both Courtney and Knott well taken at the wicket and, as the Essex batsmen increased their lead, Phillip Underwood and trapped Jarvis leg before.

## Matthew Engel on the B & H Cup final Willey navigates Leicestershire

BEFORE the start of Saturday's final, Leicestershire looked like, and may have felt like, potential fall guys for Essex, to be patted on the head with adjectives like 'worthy' and 'gallant', sent back to the sticks and invited to try again next year. It still seemed that way with 10 overs to go, 58 runs wanted and Peter Willey just starting to run out of accomplices.

Half-an-hour later, after Willey and Mike Garnham had carved their way to victory with three overs left unused, it all became obvious. Of course, one should have known that Essex would be a regular and unhappy feature of these finals and stroke-making seemed difficult for them.

Perhaps Gooch is a bit inhibited at present, having walloped his way round the Second Division for three years, he seems a bit out of his back in the First. Essex had no-one else who looked capable of a dominant innings and I think they may have made a mistake by having Gooch as Gooch's backing partner rather than one of the youngsters.

Fletcherless, they were short of craft in the middle order. Still, 213 was a passable score on such a pitch. No team in a B and H final had ever chased more successfully. And the workhorses of the Leicestershire batting line, Steve Blythe and ye Brian, had just as hard a time as their Essex equivalents.

But when the two openers were out, Willey joined Gower. They were the first non-batted batsmen of the day, after their own Barmston. The young prince spurned armour as he faced the mob, but he had brought his bodyguard along in case. Gower was out down, in full flow, by a fine catch at backward point, but Minder stayed on. Two more wickets fell, and the asking rate lurched up to six an over, but Willey's strength, of forearm and of purpose, saw Leicestershire through. He was probably in Gower's mind anyway as a companion for the West Indies adventure next winter, but this performance only makes it more likely.

Willey has been playing first-class cricket for 20 years now but, with his creaking knees, has continually imagined that each season would be his last. His bizarre mid-wicket stance, originally formulated to help him sight the West Indies quicks more easily, makes him look less certain than he is; he is rather like one of the greats, David Attenborough goes on about, who has mutated into something weird looking but perfectly adapted to survive in the jungle.

Willey slugged the ball away square, and found a partner in Garnham, the wicket-keeper. Garnham has never been a respecter of persons, which has got him into trouble in the past. And he did not give a hoot about the Essex attack. He hit almost as hard as Willey and the Essex nerve, fielding and, most unexpectedly, the bowling, gave way. Suddenly, it was all over.

## Christopher Dodd at Holme Pierrepont Pearson and Riches denied big chance

**ROWING**

As Princess Anne presented Britain's Olympic medal-medals, four of their inscribed oars at the National Championship yesterday at Holme Pierrepont, controversy surrounded one of the crew.

Martin Cross, who was how man in the four, was criticised from the coxless pairs on Saturday after his partner, Adam Clift, was unable to complete a training outing. Clift was then advised by a doctor not to row because of persistent virus infection. Thus, Evans, Pearson and Dave Riches, the Benley Goblets winners hoping to represent Britain in this event at the World Championships, were deprived of a chance to beat the regatta is a requirement for potential national crews, but in their short partnership.

## Cyril Chapman at Northampton Le Roux makes crucial break

**CRICKET**

Northamptonshire and Sussex, lying fourth and fifth in the John Player League table with five victories apiece, clashed yesterday at the County ground yesterday, Sussex, with the benefit of a flamboyant 86 from Parker, reached 210 for six and helped by a crucial break-through by Le Roux, kept Northamptonshire down to 208 for nine to win by two runs.

Sussex were dented by losing their first four wickets for 83 runs, two of them falling in the 12th over to the combination of Harper and Larkins, who was keeping a sharp look-out at square leg.

The Northamptonshire middle bowlers let this advantage slip, and Parker and Alan Wells gratified by some tempting half-volleys, hit 55 in five overs, and the fifth-wicket partnership of Harper and Larkins, who was keeping a sharp look-out at square leg, broke the stand but dismissed both participants. He forced Lamb (23) to mis-hit and left a wicket to the hinterland between bowler and batsman, and Larkins caught at the stumps for 43. At 76 for three off 17 overs Northamptonshire had to begin again under the direct supervision of Cook.

With Reeve also restrictive in the middle overs progress was slow and the target of 208 was not reached until the final ten overs were 55. As

Cook took up the challenge he was slow to Pilot for 37 and Capel was bowled first ball. Harper was then run out in the 13th over, and Sussex was struck by a drive from the other batsman and the bowler broke the stumps with the taken ball.

Northamptonshire seemed lost, but a sudden spurt by Wild left them needing only 13 runs from the last over. Barclay bowled it himself and, although seven runs came from the first five balls, the Sussex captain took a wicket with the last possible delivery.

## ROUND-UP Derbyshire home in last over

Derbyshire won an exciting John Player League match against Somerset by four wickets with one ball to spare at Derby. Set 177 for victory, in a match reduced to 33 overs by rain, Derbyshire went into the last over needing only 10 runs to win. In the end, they won by four wickets.

It was hardly appropriate that the day after some chap called Essex opened in the West End in another version of the Barmston. The Bounty would be the moment when Fletcher would be obliged to abdicate temporarily. As he nursed his injury, the old seagull will have noted that his first mate also seemed to be nicely in charge.

Gooch is playing Mr Christian in this instance (he has already had his court-martial, so the analogy has its limitations) and his performance may well have eased any remaining doubts in Essex.

**RESULTS**

**Tennis**

WASHINGTON CLASSIC (Quarter-finals): J. McEnroe (USA) beat A. Krickorian (USA) 6-3, 6-4; P. Sampras (USA) beat M. Wilander (SWE) 6-3, 6-4; M. Wilander (SWE) beat J. McEnroe (USA) 6-3, 6-4; P. Sampras (USA) beat M. Wilander (SWE) 6-3, 6-4.

**Motor Racing**

BRITISH GP (Silverstone): 1. A. Prost (FRA) 1:14.27; 2. N. Piquet (BRA) 1:14.78; 3. A. Senna (BRA) 1:15.01; 4. K. Rosberg (FIN) 1:15.12; 5. M. Brundle (GBR) 1:15.45; 6. S. Johansson (SWE) 1:15.58; 7. P. Tambay (FRA) 1:16.01; 8. D. Warwick (GBR) 1:16.12; 9. A. de Cesaris (ITA) 1:16.25; 10. P. Alliot (FRA) 1:16.38; 11. P. Ghinzani (ITA) 1:16.51; 12. M. Surer (SUI) 1:17.04; 13. S. Badoer (ITA) 1:17.17; 14. P. Barrabero (ITA) 1:17.30; 15. P. Bertrando (ITA) 1:17.43; 16. P. Fittipaldi (BRA) 1:17.56; 17. P. Hernandez (ESP) 1:18.09; 18. P. Kauder (AUT) 1:18.22; 19. P. Lehto (FIN) 1:18.35; 20. P. Magnussen (DEN) 1:18.48; 21. P. Nannmark (SWE) 1:19.01; 22. P. Salminen (FIN) 1:19.14; 23. P. Smith (GBR) 1:19.27; 24. P. Verbeke (BEL) 1:19.40; 25. P. Wiersma (NED) 1:19.53; 26. P. Zeman (CZE) 1:20.06; 27. P. Zeman (CZE) 1:20.19; 28. P. Zeman (CZE) 1:20.32; 29. P. Zeman (CZE) 1:20.45; 30. P. Zeman (CZE) 1:20.58.

**Athletics**

AAA DECATUR (Birmingham): 100m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 1:08.21; 200m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 2:18.12; 400m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 4:45.12; 800m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 9:55.12; 1600m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 19:55.12; 3200m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 39:55.12; 6400m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 79:55.12; 12800m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 159:55.12; 25600m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 319:55.12; 51200m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 639:55.12; 102400m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 1279:55.12; 204800m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 2559:55.12; 409600m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 5119:55.12; 819200m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 10239:55.12; 1638400m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 20479:55.12; 3276800m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 40959:55.12; 6553600m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 81919:55.12; 13107200m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 163839:55.12; 26214400m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 327679:55.12; 52428800m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 655359:55.12; 104857600m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 1310719:55.12; 209715200m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 2621439:55.12; 419430400m: 1. J. Taylor (GBR) 5242879:55.12; 838860800m: 1. J. 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BBC-1

6.00 am Ceefax AM 6.30 Breakfast Time. 9.20 The Pink Panther Show. 9.40 Huckleberry Finn and His Friends. 10.50 Why Don't You...? 10.30 Play School. 10.50 Pages from Ceefax. 1.0 pm News After Noon. 1.27 Regional News. 1.30 Bagpuss. 1.45 Home on Sunday. Ceefax subtitles. 2.20 Pages from Ceefax. 4.18 Regional News (except London and Scotland). 4.20 Mike. Mop and the Moke. 4.25 Children's Island. Drama series. 5.0 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Think of a Number. 5.35 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Ceefax subtitles.

6.00 NEWS. Weather news.

6.35 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES.

7.00 WOGAN.

7.40 FAME: Tomorrow's Children. The performing arts kids rush to trade their leotards and legwarmers for army fatigues when a military training programme hits the school. Appalled, Lydia and Elizabeth persuade them to stage a No Nukes concert instead.

8.30 EVER DECREASING CIRCLES: Re-run of the comedy series with Richard Briers as Martin, the exasperating pillar of the community, disappearing up his own club rosters and committee minutes. Peter Egan is the newcomer who upsets the cude-sac pecking order, and Penelope Wilton, the long-suffering wife who avoids an eternal triangle within the circle.

9.00 NEWS. Weather News.

9.25 NO GUTS... NO GLORY. Salty story of seadog Chay Blyth's attempt to beat the 150-year-old record for the fastest time under sail from New York to San Francisco. Blyth and his companion, Eric Blunn, were beset with problems and had an ill-fated voyage some believed should never have been attempted. The title echoes the farewell message from the latter-day Raleigh's daughter. Ceefax subtitles.

10.20 THE DON IS DEAD. Anthony Quinn stars in this 1973 Richard Fleischer movie about the blood and guts of Mafia rivalry. Robert Forster and Al Lettieri also play unhappy families in this spaghetti and vendetta saga. No quite the Godfather. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Close.

BBC-2

6.55-7.20 am Open University. 9.00 Pages from Ceefax. 12.30 pm Start Up Your Own Business. 12.55 Micros in School. 1.20-1.25 Pages from Ceefax.

5.25 NEWS with sub-titles.

5.30 HEROES. In the first of a new series, novelist Catherine Cookson tells Eric Robson about the people she most admires, from an American nun to her husband Tom.

6.00 PARIS HONEYMOON. Bing Crosby croons ever onwards in this 1939 black and white musical, all peasants, pulsating hearts, and cute, folksy stuff.

7.25 GREAT SPORTING MOMENTS. Just in case you haven't had enough from the bank and grunt brigade, here's Virginia Wade in her moment of glory vanquishing Chris Evert in the 1977 semi-finals.

7.40 FAVOURITE WALKS. In the last of the series, writer and architect David Young books it through North Devon with his trusty Labrador companion, William.

8.5 THE LIVING PLANET: A Portrait of The Earth. 8. - Sweet Fresh Water. David Attenborough follows the Amazon from the Andes to the sea and examines the life teeming in and around it on its 4,000 mile journey. Another chance to see hairy frogs, fishing owls and the Marsh Arabs of Iraq who live aloof on the delta. Ceefax sub-titles.

9.00 O'CONNOR. Repeated humour and song show, this time looking at strange technology with Derek Griffiths, Andrew Sachs, and Australian singer Jackie Love.

9.30 THE PAUL DANIELS MAGIC SHOW. Not a lot of new here. Re-run from Beeb 1 with the diminutive prestidigitator and Hans and Peter Moretti, featuring an escape from a burning rope.

10.10 SURVIVING. 4. Bience Gwanas. While she was still at school in South African-occupied Namibia, Bience Gwanas had to cope with the murder of her brother, she believes by a white gang. Here she recounts her experiences of survival and her struggle for her country's freedom.

10.30 NEWSNIGHT. 11.15 Weatherview. 11.20 Open University. 11.30 Close.

ITV London

6.15 am Good Morning Britain. 9.25 Headlines: Larry the Lamb. 9.40 Potty Time. 10.50 Fireball XLS. 10.30 Jo's Song. 10.55 Cartoon Time. 11.5 Home. 11.30 About Britain. 12.0 Alphabet Zoo. 12.10 pm Let's Pretend. 12.30 Medicine Matters. 1.0 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Film: Wall of Death. 1951 fairground crime drama with Laurence Harvey. 2.25 News Headlines. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 4.0 Alphabet Zoo. 4.10 Victor and Maria. 4.20 The Incredible Hulk. 4.45 Dramatized. Oracle sub-titles. 5.15 Different Strokes. 5.45 NEWS: Weather.

6.00 THAMES NEWS.

6.25 WHAT IT'S WORTH. Penny Junor and David Stafford answer more consumer problem letters.

6.35 CROSSROADS.

7.0 THE KRYPTON FACTOR. Champion of Champions, Gordon Buras presents a special battle of the brainiest contestants to launch this new series of the quirky quiz.

7.30 CORONATION STREET. Oracle sub-titles.

8.0 AFFAIRS OF THE HEART. First episode in a new series by actor Paul Deneham based on his own experiences following a heart attack. With Derek Fowles as our hero from the cardiac unit and Sarah Badel as his wife, Oracle sub-titles.

8.30 WORLD IN ACTION: Bad Blood. More than 1,000 of Britain's 2,000 severe haemophiliacs may have been infected by AIDS since 1980. "Aids is growing with a magnitude unequalled by any other disease except the polio epidemic. The 1940s," is one specialist's verdict.

9.0 THE SWEENEY: The Bigger They Come. A new series with Messrs Thaw and Waterman.

10.0 NEWS AT TEN. Weather. Thames News Headlines.

10.30 "V". A Reflection in Terror. Diana produces a clone of Elizabeth with genetic engineering with deadly results.

11.0 HUMAN JIGSAW.

12.0 PAUL ANKA - PORTRAIT OF A LEGEND. Repeated chat to the crooner with James Darren.

12.25 NIGHT THOUGHTS with the Bishop of Durham. Close.

Channel 4

2.35 pm Medicine Men: Naturopathy. 3.0 The Coral Jungle. 4.0 Whose Town Is It Anyway. 4.30 Television Scramble. 5.0 Alice. 5.30 Fanny Waterman's Piano Progress.

6.0 OLD COUNTRY. More diary notes with Jack Hargreaves, this time taking a canter round the French National Stud.

6.30 THE PRESS GANG: The Takeover. This new series looks at a typical weekly newspaper, warts and all, hopefully dispelling those hold-the-front-page myths. The Hastings Observer goes under the microscope during its new technology take-over in this four-part series. Oracle sub-titles.

7.0 CHANNEL FOUR NEWS: 7.50 Comment by Clive Lloyd, West Indies cricketing legend. Weather.

8.0 BROOKSIDE.

8.30 MAN ABOUT THE HOUSE: Home And Away. Another dose of the dated sitcom.

9.0 A VOICE IN THE DARKNESS. In CHRISTABEL BIELENBERG. In 1984 Christabel Bieleberg, deb and niece of Lord Northcliffe, married a German law student and went to live in Germany. She talks to Peter Williams about her realisation of the growth of anti-semitism and her involvement with the rise and fall of the Third Reich.

10.0 WATCH THE WOMAN: Another edition of the thinking woman's magazine transmuted from glossy pages to the tube, with Polly Toynbee on childbirth, plus a report on women returning to education in their mid-twenties.

10.45 GODARD'S CINEMA: PRAYDA. The Jean-Luc Godard continues with his latest work made in Czechoslovakia with the Dziga Vertov Group in 1969. It reflects on the Russian invasion and attacks both capitalism and socialist imperialism. Not the lightest of night caps: have your matchsticks at the ready to prop open unwilling eyes. 11.45 Close.

Radio 1

6.0 am Adrian John. 9.0 Mike Read. 10.0 Simon Bates's Golden Hour. 11.0 Radio 1 Roadshow. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Gary Davies. 2.30 Steve Wright. 3.0 Bruno Brookes. 7.30 Paul Jordan. 8.0-12.0 midnight John Peel.

Radio 2

4.0 am Martin Kelner. 6.0 Ray Moore. 7.0 Ken Bruce. 10.30 Jimmy Young. 12.30 pm Music All The Way. 4.5 David Hamilton. 6.5 John Dunn. 8.0 Alan Dell. Dance Band Days. Big Band Era. 10.0 Humphrey Lyttelton. 10.30 Detective. 10.30 On the Air. 11.0 Brian Matthew. 1.0 am Peter Dinklage. 3.0-4.0 Folk on 2.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.0 News: Morning Concert. 7.0 News: This Week's Composer. 7.0 News: (11.55-12.05) Instrumental and church music. 10.0 Two Piano Sonatas by Mozart and Beethoven. Paul Bortolotti. 10.30 Strauss: Overture. 11.0 Brahms: Concerto. 11.30 Brahms: Concerto. 12.30 Brahms: Concerto. 1.0 Brahms: Concerto. 1.30 Brahms: Concerto. 2.0 Brahms: Concerto. 2.30 Brahms: Concerto. 3.0 Brahms: Concerto. 3.30 Brahms: Concerto. 4.0 Brahms: Concerto. 4.30 Brahms: Concerto. 5.0 Brahms: Concerto. 5.30 Brahms: Concerto. 6.0 Brahms: Concerto. 6.30 Brahms: Concerto. 7.0 Brahms: Concerto. 7.30 Brahms: Concerto. 8.0 Brahms: Concerto. 8.30 Brahms: Concerto. 9.0 Brahms: Concerto. 9.30 Brahms: Concerto. 10.0 Brahms: Concerto. 10.30 Brahms: Concerto. 11.0 Brahms: Concerto. 11.30 Brahms: Concerto. 12.0 Brahms: Concerto. 12.30 Brahms: Concerto. 1.0 Brahms: Concerto. 1.30 Brahms: Concerto. 2.0 Brahms: Concerto. 2.30 Brahms: Concerto. 3.0 Brahms: Concerto. 3.30 Brahms: Concerto. 4.0 Brahms: Concerto. 4.30 Brahms: Concerto. 5.0 Brahms: Concerto. 5.30 Brahms: Concerto. 6.0 Brahms: Concerto. 6.30 Brahms: Concerto. 7.0 Brahms: Concerto. 7.30 Brahms: Concerto. 8.0 Brahms: Concerto. 8.30 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